FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 056 *22 March 1985*

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TASS REPORTS USSR-U.S. PLENARY MEETING IN GENEVA

LD211237 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 21 TASS -- The delegations of the USSR and the United States held a plenary meeting at the talks on nuclear and space arms here today.

PRAVDA'S KORIONOV: ARMS TALKS COURSE 'CLEAR-CUT'

LD190939 Moscow TASS in English 0919 GMT 19 Mar 85

["PRAVDA's Article: "Our Course Is Clear-Cut" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- "One of the cardinal lessons of World War Two is that when the United States, the USSR and other allies for the anti-Hitler coalition came out in single combat formation against the forces which were contending for world domination, they managed to put a stop to those hegemonist ambitions," Vitaliy Korionov, PRAVDA's political news analyst, writes in the newspaper. "The decisions which were adopted at the Yalta conference of the leaders of the powers of the anti-Hitler coalition in many respects determined the aspect of a post-war set-up, particularly in the European Continent which has not known the horrors of war for forty years already. Don't these historical facts indicate how important relations of peaceful coexistence and cooperation are to all peoples and, not in the last place, to the USSR and the USA?"

"As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it is ready, if the U.S. side, too, shows the same readiness, to act practically in favour of improving Soviet-U.S. relations," the author emphasizes. "That would be of great importance for the improvement of the international situation as a whole and for the strengthening of universal peace. Of course, it should be clear to everyone that the USSR will never waive the legitimate interests of its own security and the interests of its allies".

"The forty post-war years have irrefutably proved: The counting on force and on reaching military superiority leads inter-state relations into a deadlock remaining in which it is impossible to find a reasonable solution to matters.

"The Soviet Union suggests acting differently so that it would meet the vital interests of all the peoples".

"The Soviet Union has not sought and does not seek one-sided advantages over the United States, over NATO countries, has not sought and does not seek military superiority over them. Our country wants termination, and not a continuation of the arms race and, therefore, offers a freeze on nuclear arsenals, an end to the further deployment of missiles. Our country wants a real and major reduction of arms stockpiles, and not the development of ever new weapon systems, whether in space or on earth.

"The USSR's principled, consistent policy opens the way for constructive accords, at the Soviet-U.S. talks on space and nuclear arms, which have begun in Geneva, as well. But the USSR is only one of the negotiators. And very much depends on the stand of the other side".

"The international public has not failed to note the fact that, even before representatives of the USSR and the USA took their seats at the negotiating table, the lawmakers that sit in Washington's capital began to feel a most strong pressure", the author points out.

"The U.S. press reports that the U.S. Administration feverishly seeks to implement a rigid schedule worked out by it for congressional voting on the allocation of funds will ostensibly give the U.S. delegation in Geneva a trump card for pressure on the Russians."

"The British newspaper GUARDIAN points out that the difficulties of the talks are being aggravated by the U.S. Administration's stubborn endeavours to continue work within the framework of the 'star wars" programme. The U.S. Administration has elevated the programme to the level of the dangerous principle of a 'new approach' to the arms control process. However, in actual fact, there is no question of any 'new approach': This is the selfsame policy of renouncing arms reductions, the policy which is being covered by pseudo-peaceable rhetoric".

"The cause of peaceful coexistence and international cooperation," Vitaliy Korionov writes, "would benefit greatly if in Washington they followed the course of reason and realism. They should realize that it is essential for the opposing forces to reach agreement and that such agreement should be honest and equitable. The Soviet Union is convinced that the task of preventing the arms race from spreading over to outer space has now acquired decisive significance. The implementation of 'star wars' plans would give an impetus to a practically uncontrolled arms race in all directions and upset a number of important agreements now in force. The U.S. side ought to be no less interested in keeping these agreements than the Soviet side."

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REJECTS MX FUNDING

LD211755 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Washington -- The House of Representatives Appropriations Committee has rejected the U.S. Administration's demands to set aside $1.5 billion of the 1985 budget for the construction of a new consignment of MX first-strike missiles. Twenty-eight members of the committee voted against and 26 voted for. The results of the voting in the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, like the advantage in favor of the administration by just 10 votes during yesterday's voting in the Senate, points to the acuteness of the struggle around the MX program in the U.S. Congress. Many members of Congress, taking into consideration the mood of the electorate, are striving for total cancellation of this program.

ADMINISTRATION 'PRESSURING' HOUSE ON MX VOTE

LD211711 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 21 Mar 85

[By TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko]

[Text] Washington, 21 Mar (TASS) -- In accordance with established procedure, the Senate has for the second time rubber stamped a decision to satisfy the administration's demand for the allocation of $1.5 million in the budget for the 1985 fiscal year, to be spent on construction of 21 MX missiles, which will be additional to the same number of these first-strike nuclear weapons already in production. As was the case during the first vote, 55 senators followed the administration's bidding. Forty-five senators voted against. A vote will be taken in the House of Representatives next week.

It is noted here that the administration managed to win support for its militaristic program mainly through an unprecedented campaign of pressure on Congress. During the days leading up to the Senate vote, Ronald Reagan put intense pressure on the senators in order to force them to endorse the Pentagon's request. The President paid a personal visit to the Capitol, where he tried to convince each senator that the continuation of the MX program was a matter of exceptional importance. He demagogically asserted that the implementation of the MX program would enable the United States to demostrate to the Soviet Union its determination to reach agreement on strategic armaments at the Geneva talks.

Some members of Congress admitted that they had been telephoned by Kampelman, the head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, and his deputy, Tower. During the telephone conversations, Kampelman and Tower appealed to them to vote for MX. They alleged that without these missiles the U.S. position at the talks with the Soviet Union would be weakened. In other words, while participating in the talks on disarmament, the U.S. representatives were at the same time campaigning in favor of the arms race.

In its efforts to manipulate Congress, the administration is now turning its attention to the House of Representatives, where two rounds of voting on the MX program are to take place next week. It is considered here that the White House will ultimately succeed in "twisting the arm" of most members of the lower house and obtaining the outcome to the vote which it needs. The House Armed Services Committee, where the tone is set by stooges of the Pentagon, has already come out in support of the MX program. However, opposition to the militaristic program is greater in the House of Representatives than in the upper house of Congress. This isshown, in particular, by the fact that its Approprations Committee voted against the continuation of the MX program. It is vitally important, Senator Lautenberg stated, to halt the arms race, to seek an agreement with the USSR on arms control, and not to try to upset the strategic equilibrium by deploying MX missiles. He described the administration's allegations that this program will help to bring about progress at the Soviet-U.S. negotiations as the height of cynicism and hypocrisy.

The course of the debate on the MX program in Congress again shows that White House statements about U.S. aspirations for peace, reduction and even elimination of strategic nuclear armaments bear no relation to its actions, which are aimed at forging ahead with the arms race, extending it to space, and securing the potential for getting away with a first strike -- in other words, preparations for unleashing a nuclear war.

BOGACHEV SAYS U.S. ATTEMPTS SUPERIORITY VIA MX

LD211602 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1445 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar (TASS) -- Vladimir Bogachev, TASS observer on military questions, writes:

If some high-ranking "innovator" in Washington proposed to start the fight against crime in the United States by organizing courses to improve the qualifications of robbers and tyrants, they would probably think he was crazy and might even give him the sack. However, the Reagan administration has, in the course of 4 years, been trying to convince the American public that the only reliable path towards arms limitation and reduction lies through the intensive buildup of MX, Trident, and Pershing II missiles, and through transferring the arms race to outer space. In a country which once prided itself on the common sense of its citizens, one can daily find a number of "experts" who are prepared to seriously discuss the merits of this flimsy thesis in the press and on television.

"By voting for the MX missile," President Reagan assures the American legislators, "you are voting for the success of the Geneva talks." "If Congress cuts down on the program of the strategic modernization of the United States," echoes Kenneth Adelman, the director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, "little hope will remain of convincing the Russians to make real reductions in their strategic forces."

In the days prior to the voting in the Senate on allocations for the MX missile, President Reagan himself set off for the Capitol, and, by twisting the arms of the senators, tried to force them to see that the approval of this program would somehow enable the United States to demonstrate its determination to reach an agreement on strategic arms at Geneva. Larry Speakes, the White House's deputy press secretary, told journalists: "Our approach to the members of the House of Representatives will be the same as it was to the senators -- we will work on them day by day, one congressman after another."

President Reagan himself, in a rare moment of candor last year, declared: "As regards forces, we (the United States and the USSR) are almost equal. "In the February report of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which was delivered to Congress, the existence of "approximate nuclear parity between the United States and the Soviet Union" is admitted. And so there is of course no question of the United States' lagging behind in the military sphere, a situation which would have to be eliminated by the creation of such first-strike weapons as the MX ICBM's.

What is the meaning of the U.S. Administration's appeals for an accumulation of ever more modern means of mass destruction? What are the Washington representatives striving for in starting another spiral in the arms race?

There is only one answer that can be given to these questions. The present U.S. Administration is not happy with the existing parity of military forces between the Soviet Union and the United States. Washington is striving to break loose from the "chains of parity" and achieve military superiority over the socialist countries.

This is why Washington has put forward the absurd slogan "Toward disarmament through an intial increase in U.S. weapons." This is the reason why the U.S. Administration, painting black white, is calling the first-strike nuclear missiles "a guarantee of peace."

For all their illusory nature and impossibility of fulfillment, Washington's plans for achieving military superiority are extremely dangerous for the cause of peace. They put under threat prospects for reducing, through talks, the danger of nuclear war.

The Soviet Union is not striving for military superiority, but it will not allow Washington's adventuristic plans for achieving world hegemony to be realized.

Washington should realize that the creation of new American nuclear weapons systems will only set in motion the "action against action" chain. As a result, parity will be reestablished, but at a higher and more dangerous level. The way towards an elimination of the nuclear war threat does not lie through an expansion of the arms race, as the U.S. President asserts, but through conducting honorable, serious talks based on the principle of equality and equal security of the sides.

USSR PEACE COMMITTEE OFFICIAL VIEWS MX VOTE

LD212240 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Genrikh Borovik commentary]

[Text] As has already been reported, the U.S. Senate has decided to satisfy the administration's requests to make $1.5 billion available in the 1985 budget for construction of 21 MX missiles. Over to the writer Genrikh Borovik, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace:

[Borovik to camera] Hello comrades. The voting you have heard about was very tense. Right up until the last day, it was difficult to forecast the outcome. The administration's representatives spent all their time on Capitol Hill, buttonholing and accosting the senators, shepherding them into corners and accompanying them everywhere. The vice president of the United States, the secretary of state, the secretary of defense, rank-and-file employees of the White House and the Pentagon all of them alike, were doing this. However, it was left to the President to deal the final blow. We remember how several months prior to the November elections last year, the U.S. President began, all of a sudden, to deliver peacemaking speeches. The press took it upon itself to prove that, at long last, he had become an experienced and wise politician, had taken the peace idea to heart, and was ready to put right relations with the USSR. He even accepted our country's proposal to hold talks in Geneva.

However, the Geneva talks commenced on 12 March, and already on 19 March the Senate was adopting a decision to finance a new batch of the first-strike MX missiles. And it was here, at this juncture, that those who had lent credibility to the President's sincerity began to have their doubts: It was as if something was not quite right.

It was at that time that they heard a battle cry. While visiting Canada on the eve of the voting, the President delivered an anti-Soviet speech in his best old tradition: both about the struggle against the darkness of communism, and that the time has come to halt the Soviet Union; about the warm rays of the sun of bourgeois democracy; and, naturally, about our violations of treaties and so forth.

On his return from Canada, he graced the Senate with his presence in order to persuade, convince, and threaten. If you do not give us the $1.5 billion, the many billions already spent on MX will be lost, he said. If you do not stock up with them, the program of new, offensive arms technologically bound up with MX will go out the window. He even said the following: A vote for the MX is a vote for universal peace, hinting that a vote against can be regarded as betrayal of national security interests. The main argument was left until the end: The new MX missiles will strengthen the position of the U.S. delegation in Geneva. He was contradicted: How will the position of the U.S. delegation in Geneva be strengthened indeed? After all, the talks under way there are not about arms increases, but about arms limitations. Well, in this way: The American delegation in Geneva shows flexibility and earnestly and sincerely strives for deep reductions in nuclear arms, said the President. The MX and disarmament go hand in hand. I am not parodying; the President of the United States used these very words: "earnestly and sincerely" and "hand in hand."

An illogical and amoral position? Undoubtedly. Dangerous to peace? And how. But, sometimes I think that it is not often that one can expect logic, morality, and conscience from the rulers of a society in which there exist groups of people making money on manufacturing means of destruction and on blood. After all, the very system which is capable of enriching itself on war is illogical and amoral.

Of course, apart from the sweet thought of huge billions, there is also here an even more honeylike hope. Suppose that, having heard of the MX, the Russians will, nevertheless, take fright, renounce and retreat from everything, from socialism, from the communist idea, and, with them, the whole world will take fright and retreat? And everything would again be like it was in the olden days, like it was before, at the beginning of the century and, better still maybe, in the last century? Oh, what delightful dreams! They are dressed up in nice words about the warm rays of democracy, but they are underpinned by an idea which, incidentally, is a very old and banal one: to lay one's hands on everything and be master of everything.

In this context, one would like to remind the White House of history. I will be so bold as to voice my suspicion that they are not too well versed in this subject over there. I have in mind here events of 40 years ago. At that time, there also were talks, in Potsdam, and at that time attempts were also made to intimidate us a bit, with the atom bomb. Well, nothing came of it. One should do a bit of reading about this, and there are very good books around. And if they are partial to films in the White House, one can also recommend several films -- not bad, not bad at all -- documentary and feature films alike, made in our country quite recently. Everything is simple and easy to understand in them; the characters are to be seen there.

There is another piece of advice that one can give: A session of the World Peace Council opens in Moscow tomorrow. Let those in Washington listen to what people of the world are talking about and what they are thinking. It may prove very useful indeed.

PRAVDA VIEWS U.S. OPPOSITION, SUPPORT TO SDI

PM211343 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent G. Vasilyev: "Space Debates in the United States; Administration's Arguments Under Critical Fire"]

[Text] Washington, March -- The start of the new Soviet-U.S. talks encompassing a package of nuclear and space armaments has generated widespread responses in the United States. Sane Americans have seen a good omen in it. They believe that the talks may pave the way to the attainment of mutually acceptable and equitable accords which would halt or even better reverse man's slide toward the nuclear abyss. At the same time, the apologists of the "from a position of strength" policy, the opponents of peaceful coexistence, are displeased and worried. They are afraid that measures aimed at preventing the arms race in space and halting it on earth could hamper their efforts aimed at reaching a goal which is constantly slipping away from them -- the acquisition of military superiority over the socialist countries.

The discussions which have flared up in recent weeks in U.S. newspapers, scientific conference halls, and congressional committees advance to the fore a problem of key importance for making headway at the talks -- the problem of the prevention of the militarization of space.

In an attempt to reassure the public alarmed by the "star wars" program, leading figures in the U.S. Administration are defending these plans almost daily. As though they were following a cribsheet, they are pouring forth identical arguments designed to mislead people. The arguments' uniformity is no accident. A "crib" does exist. It is the special brochure "The President's Strategic Defense Initiative" issued recently by the White House. Let's take a look at the brochure's theses, because what this slim 10-page volume contains is a kind of quintessence of the propaganda "wisdom" of those who try to make out that black is white and to present the mortally dangerous plans to saturate space with sophisticated types of armaments as "the path leading to peace and security."

The brochure's first fraudulent assertion: The wide-ranging ABM system which the United States is preparing to deploy is presented as "defensive," making it possible to shift the emphasis from nuclear offensive armaments to defensive armaments.

The second fraudulent assertion: The creation of an all-embracing ABM system with space-based elements will strengthen stability and international security.

The third: The implementation of "the President's Strategic Defense Initiative" will "promote a substantial reduction in and ultimately the elimination of ballistic missiles and the nuclear charges they carry."

The fourth: The implementation of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" is being undertaken exclusively within the framework of scientific research and experimental design work and therefore "does not contradict" U.S. treaty commitments, including the current Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of ABM systems.

And, finally, the fifth assertion: Having set itself the aim of militarizing near-earth space, the United States is "not seeking" to achieve military and political superiority, but is merely concerned "to reduce the threat of nuclear war."

All these assertions, like the White House brochure's other "revelations," are sheer lies, a collection of tricks, and simply false arguments designed to mislead simpletons. But however complex the convolutions of the military strategic issues connected with the militarization of space may seem to the ordinary person, there are many people in the United States with a good understanding of the subject. The voices of these people -- eminent scientists, retired generals and admirals, and well-known politicians -- are being heard increasingly loudly in the country today.

Let's hear what they have to say about the White House "crib's" theses. Let's begin at the end, with the "peace-loving" intentions of the champions of "star wars", and their alleged lack of desire for military superiority. However strange it may seem, it is the "hawks" themselves who come to the aid of those who would like to find out the truth here. The point is that among themselves at business conferences, the militarists speak quite differently from the way they do in public -- they don't beat about the bush.

For instance, here is what U.S. Air Force General Robert Marsh said some time ago: "We must achieve the ability to wage war from the surface of the earth against targets in space and from space-based installations against other installations in space, and from space against the earth." His boss, Edward Aldridge, under secretary of the Air Force, explained the strategic and political goals which the U.S. plan to militarize near-earth space is pursuing: "You don't need to make a particular effort of imagination to see that the nation which controls space can control the whole world."

As for the other arguments in the White House brochure, let's cite the authors of the book "Fallacious Arguments for Star Wars" ["Lozhnyye Dovody V Zashchitu Zvezdnykh Voyn"]. They include well-known U.S. scientists like Nobel Prize winner nuclear physicist Hans Bethe, physics professor Kurt Gottfried, Henry Kendall, Victor Weisskopf, and Richard Garwin, astronomer Carl Sagan, military strategy specialist Richard (Nel Lebou), chemistry professor Franklin Long, and foreign policy specialist John Steinbruner. Admiral Noel Gayler, retired, and Herbert Scoville, former deputy director of the CIA for science and technology, also took part in the book's creation.

The scientists show that formally "defensive" and allegedly "humane" efforts in actual fact lead to the destabilization of the world situation, to a sharp aggravation of the race in defensive and, especially, in offensive arms, and make the unleashing of nuclear war far likelier.

"The perils (of the "star wars" plans -- G.V.)," the book says, "are decidedly greater than the advantages which could be derived if our technical potential were far greater than now. The U.S. decision to initiate the deployment of ABM defense would give rise to retaliatory steps from the Soviet Union and would generate a chain reaction of actions and counteractions which would radically alter the strategic environment to the detriment of both countries' security."

Although the U.S. Administration calls its space plans defensive, the book continues, the USSR "interprets them as offensive, as part of the U.S. efforts aimed at gaining the ability to deliver a first strike against Soviet strategic forces and subsequently take cover from a retaliatory strike." The authors acknowledge that this viewpoint of Soviet specialists is entirely founded inasmuch as plans to prepare for the deployment of ABM "defense" in space are accompanied in the United States by the buildup of first-strike offensive armaments like the MX, Midgetman, and Trident II missiles and Washington's adoption of the doctrine that a nuclear war can be waged and won. It was none other than the U.S. President himself who admitted the rightfulness [pravomernost] of this viewpoint when he said in his notorious 23 March 1983 "star wars" speech that the proposed plan to deploy ABM defense in space "if it is combined with offensive systems... can be assessed as a factor promoting an aggressive policy."

The book's authors refute the assertaion that the U.S. "star wars" plans, because they are still at the scientific research work stage, do not violate any existing U.S. arms limitation commitments, above all those envisaged by the 1972 Soviet-U.S. ABM systems limitation treaty. It is absolutely obvious that the ABM defense in space conceived by the administration is incompatible with the 1972 ABM treaty, they say. That treaty bans the creation, testing, and deployment of a nationwide ABM system which would cover an entire country, irrespective of where that system is located, at sea, in the air, in space, or on mobile ground-based installations.

The discussion of the question of the future of space has recently been advanced to the foreground of foreign policy discussions in Washington. Sensible Americans' fears were intensified when the figures for the U.S. budget for fiscal 1986 were published. They provide for expenditure on plans for preparing for "star wars" to nearly treble (in all, in 5 years it is planned to spend $26 billion on these aims) and for the simultaneous acceleration of the program to build up offensive armaments. All this could not fail to generate justified distrust in the "peace-loving" phraseology used by the U.S. Administration and doubts as to its goodwill with regard to arms limitation.

The materials of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum, which noted that the only sensible way out of the existing situation is an agreement by the opposing forces on the immediate cessation of the race in arms, above all nuclear arms, on earth and its prevention in space, were welcomed with enormous attention here. The Soviet Union's confirmation of its course toward a real and large-scale reduction of stockpiled armaments and not toward the creation of ever new weapons systems in space or on earth was welcomed with satisfaction.

The Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva open up opportunities for a serious and fruitful examination of questions of the prevention of the arms race in space and its cessation on earth. The interests of all mankind demand that these opportunities should not be missed.

REAGAN 'INDIGNANT' AT UK HOWE'S SDI STAND

LD220024 Moscow TASS in English 2220 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe recently came out with the criticism of the U.S. programme of "star wars". He stressed that it might place the world before the prospect of the arms race on an unprecedented scale, IZVESTIYA correspondent in London Vladimir Skosyrev writes today.

Hardly a few days passed since then as Washington launched a campaign of pressure on London to force it to follow obediently in the wake of the United States strategy, the correspondent writes. U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain Charles Price visited the Foreign Office on March 20 and raised the question of Geoffrey Howe's statement.

According to GUARDIAN, the ambassador made it plain to the British side that President Reagan was highly indignant at the attitude toward the "Strategic Defence Initiative" expressed by the British foreign secretary in his speech.

Washington's attacks on its partner in NATO did not pass unnoticed by the British public, IZVESTIYA's correspondent writes. Several prominent scientists and politicians sent letters to TIMES. In their letters they stress that the British Government should conduct an independent line despite overt U.S. pressure.

Perle Also Criticial

LD211156 Moscow TASS in English 1143 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] London March 21 TASS -- The United States is increasing pressure to bear on its West European allies, seeking from them unreserved support for the adventurist plans for a militarization of outer space. This has been most convincingly demonstrated by the address by Richard Perle, U.S. deputy defence secretary, to the conference on problems of communism and liberal democracy called in the British capital. The statement by Richard Perle caused broad political repercussions.

Thus the Washington emissary lashed out, in particular, against Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary, for the expression by the latter in one of his recent statements, albeit in a quite restrained form, as regards the advisability of Washington's "star wars" programme. The U.S. deputy defence secretary criticized the British foreign secretary for "distorting" the development of strategic relations between the USA and the Soviet Union throughout the past decade. According to Perle, Geoffrey Howe distorted in his speech the history of Soviet-American relations beyond recognition.

It is by no means fortuitous that the U.S. deputy defence secretary has chosen one of the West European capitals for expressing such reproaches. As the newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES points out, they in Washington are more concerned over the apprehensions openly expressed by the Europeans as regards the "star wars" programme than they wish to recognize it officially. In public, the newspaper writes, the U.S. Administration is trying to belittle manifestations of disagreement with its West European partners in the hope of preserving at least semblance of their appearance in a united front with the USA. Yet, privately, American officials declare that they are dissatisfied with the stand of the West European countries on that issue.

The local press also stresses that soon after the statement by Richard Perle, Geoffrey Howe met with Charles Price, U.S. ambassador to London. In the opinion of newspapers, the ambassador expressed to the foreign secretary his "perplexity" over the latter's public statement on the "star wars" problem.

Washington March 21 TASS -- British officials say that they do not remember another instance of an official in Perle's rank reprimanding a British foreign secretary, a correspondent of THE WASHINGTON POST in London writes. The statement by Geoffrey Howe, which was a cause of much concern for the Reagan administration, and Perle's answer are assessed by some diplomats as evidence that it will be difficult to overcome differences on the "star wars" problem.

U.S. SPACE COMMAND OFFICERS REVIEW SPACE PLANS

LD211717 Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 21 TASS -- Making delirious plans for attaining military superiority, the U.S. military regard the near-earth space as a potential theater for future combat operations. Military uses of outer space have become a major element in the activities of the Pentagon, said Major General Karl Beer, deputy chief of staff of the USAF Space Command. He spoke at hearings in one of the subcommittees of the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. Senate. In his words, the U.S. Space Command had carried out a special study which made plans for space militarization for the period till 2000. It follows from his remarks that the construction of a special center will be completed shortly at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado which will among other things train operators of U.S. military space systems. The construction of the Joint Center of Space Operations, also based in Colorado, is nearing completion now.

Another high-ranking member of the U.S. Space Command Brigadier General Donald Kutyno stressed during the hearings that the Pentagon regarded reusable spacecraft as the main vehicle for the delivery of military-related cargoes to the orbit. In his words, the first launch of the reusable spacecraft from a new launching complex at Vandenberg Air Force Base is planned for February 1986. Answering the question of Senator Gary Hart if a moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite systems was in line with U.S. interests, General Kutyno said that the United States needed no such moratorium. A comprehensive ban would be an obstacle to all those programs that are now in development, he stressed.

Speaking in one of the subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, urged legislators to support President Reagan's "star wars" program.

ZHUKOV EXPLAINS WEST'S 'DREAD' OF VICTORY DAY

PM211512 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 85 First Edition p 6

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "Why Do They Dread Victory Day?"]

[Text] Recently C. Silvester, head of the U.S. State Department Bureau of European and Canadian affairs "public liaison group," replied to journalists who were asking when it would eventually be known how the U.S. Administration intended to celebrate Victory Day.

"Contrary to original expectations," the official spokesman said, "the interdepartmental group headed by T. Niles, deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, is elaborating and will make several decisions in the process of its activity, which may last right up to the beginning of May (!)."

Such an evasive reply could only astonish the audience. No one knows better than journalists working in Washington that it is no ordinary "group" of officials, but a very responsible and imposing body. The body has been operating in conditions of the "strictest confidentiality" for many methods now, trying to decide whether the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism should be celebrated and, if not, how to explain this to the public.

The interdepartmental body comprises representatives of the State Department, the Pentagon, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National Security Council and, of course, the state propaganda organ -- the USIA. It is said that the CIA is also involved in its work. It is operating under the supervision of Secretary of State G. Shultz, presidential National Security Adviser R. MacFarlane, and other senior figures. There have been consultations with the U.S. NATO allies.

What is preventing such responsible people from elaborating their stance? Perhaps the most frank statement on this score came from U.S. President R. Reagan himself. On 26 January, when he was talking with representatives of seven radio companies, he was asked:

"Mr President, since you are traveling to Bonn not long before the anniversary of the victory over nazisn in Europe, would you like to prolong your stay to celebrate the anniversary and, maybe, celebrate it with the Russians?"

"I hope," the President replied coldly, "that the end of World War II will not turn into a worldwide celebration of victory... I hope that we now see this anniversary as the day that laid the foundations of democracy, freedom, peace, and friendship between former enemies."

As for the democracy, freedom, and peace Washington is so fond of spouting about, usurping these sacred words to totally conceal opposite concepts, the President did not deem it necessary to explain that democracy, freedom, and peace in Europe were established only as a result of the heroism and sacrifices of the Soviet Army, which stifled nazism in its lair. Washington chooses to ignore this, just as it ignores the fact that during the war the United States and the USSR were allies in the struggle against the common enemy. The message about U.S. friendship with "former enemies," however, has been clearly and frankly stated.

The very idea that the Governments of the United States and the NATO countries should not mark Victory Day was supplied from a source whose identity is by no means difficult to guess. Incidentally, shortly before the U.S. President's statement, the West German newspaper SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG wrote in an article entitled "Bonn Opposes Celebration of Western Allies' Victory (incidentally, why just "Western"? -- Yu. Zh.) on 40th Anniversary of German capitulation" that:

"During his talk with the U.S. President at the White House, FRG Chancellor H. Kohl expressed Bonn's wish that there should be no (!) 'victory celebrations by the allies and no official U.S.-Soviet event in connection with the anniversary of the two Armies meeting on the Elbe.'"

The newspaper added that in the FRG, the associations of "expellees" -- as revanchist groupings there are demegogically termed -- intend to mark the date "with a different emphasis." It is clear what kind!

Several days later, the FRG chancellor reaffirmed on the radio that he had discussed this "delicate" problem with the leaders of the United States and the other Western NATO powers and received assurances that they would not "take part in any events that would wound the heart or soul" of their current friends in the FRG. "That is the view of the U.S. President, with whom I had a long talk about this," he specified. "I discussed it again with Secretary of State Shultz."

But those who so self-confidently resolved the question of whether or not to mark Victory Day behind the backs of their people, forgot that there is no way on earth to rob people of their memories and ability to discuss the hard lessons of history.

I am not talking about the fact that Victory Day will be marked as a nationwide holiday in the USSR and all the socialist countries, including the GDR, where they remember and do not forget: This victory was the second act of worldwide historical liberation to be accomplished by the Soviet people in this century, the first being the Great October Socialist Revolution. All the peoples, including the peoples of capitalist states, will mark this day.

The news coming in from the NATO countries indicates that even in Western countries they will not succeed in preventing the celebration of Victory Day. Even one of the most senior organs of the Italian bourgeois press, CORRIERE DELLA SERA, recently warned its Bonn friends in cautious but sufficiently clear terms: "Once again the Germans have to face their history... The anniversary is approaching of the capitulation of (Hitler's) Germany and thus the end of World War II in Europe. In view of the round number -- 40 years -- the celebration of this anniversary cannot be avoided."

People are well aware of this, too, in the other countries linked to the United States and the FRG by the bounds of military and political commitments. The lesson learned in London is instructive. Baroness Young, who holds the posts of minister of state for foreign affairs, only had to state that Victory Day will not be marked in Britain because, you see, to celebrate it would be "at best an expression of nostalgia and at worse anti-German," for a political storm to break out in the country.

"It seems," the conservative DAILY TELEGRAPH newspaper wrote in this connection, "as if the government was caught unawares." Mrs Thatcher had to announce in the House of Commons that the government's decision "not to celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory this year" had been revoked. True, the official celebrations, as is clear from reports coming in from London, will be modest: The DAILY EXPRESS reported that they will be confined to a "service of remembrance for the fallen, to be held in Westminster Abbey" in the presence of the queen and of ambassadors accredited to London. But his official deliberate "restraint" will probably be made up for by the actions of Britian's peace-loving forces, which have not forgotten what a terrible catastrophe their country avoided thanks to the alliance with the USSR in the war against Hitler's Germany. After all, the country's fate was hanging by a thread.

The French Government is preparing to mark the 40th Victory Day. The newspaper LE MONDE published the announcement of this decision, adopted by the cabinet, under the heading "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory Over Nazism Will Be Marked by Major Ceremonies." There can be no doubt that the French people, who preserve the memory of fighting France, the heroic resistance movement, the exploits of the airmen of the Normandy-Neman squadron, and the significance of the Soviet Army's routing of Hitler's Wehrmacht, will know how to mark Victory Day in a fitting manner.

Indeed, in the FRG -- whether its present leaders want it or not -- the people, despite the anti-Soviet revanchist propaganda which has become particularly fierce in recent months, will also celebrate this great date as the day of liberation from Nazi barbarity.

The magazine DER SPIEGEL has reported that W. Brandt, former FRG chancellor and leader of the West German Social Democrats, has stated that he would like to see the 40th anniversary of the defeat of fascism "as the date when the Germans make it clear to everyone that they have learned the lesson of World War II."

Peter Glotz, federal secretary of that influential party, has suggested that the Social Democratic Party of Germany should invite delegations from the cities destroyed by the Hitlerites during the war -- Minsk, Lidice, Oradour, Coventry, and others -- to celebrate Victory Day in Nuremberg.

Even in the United States itself there is mounting dissatisfaction with the fact that the present U.S. Administration is trying to ignore the lessons stemming from the historic victory over fascism won at such a dear price and to consign to oblivion the glorious pages of history when Americans and Soviet people fought side by side in the struggle against Hitler's Germany and militarist Japan.

As the recent extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum noted, the celebration of Victory Day could be used to continue the process of setting up international cooperation in the interests of peace.

These aspirations are shared by hundreds of millions of people perturbed by the tension of international, and, above all, Soviet-U.S. relations.

FAVORABLE COMMENT ON GORBACHEV SUMMARIZED

PM181610 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS Roundup: "For Peace and Cooperation"]

[Text] 15 Mar -- Proceeding from the premise that the right to live in conditions of peace and freedom is people's supreme right, the Soviet Union will continue to increase its efforts aimed at stopping the arms race and removing the threat of world thermonuclear catastrophe. This is the international public's main assessment of the results of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum and the speeches by M. S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum and at the funeral rally in Red Square.

The foreign press is giving wide coverage of M. S. Gorbachev's meetings and speeches with the heads of foreign delegations in Moscow.

Confirming its inexorable will for peace and the continuity and principledness of its policy, the USSR will continue to increase its efforts aimed at stopping the arms race and maintaining and strengthening world peace, Hungary's NEPSZABADSAG observes. The Soviet Union is firmly in favor of relaxing international tension and is ready to participate in continuing the process of establishing peaceful, mutually beneficial cooperation with all states on the principles of equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in internal affairs.

Bulgarian newspapers carry articles under the headlines "Unchanged Strategy Line," "For the Cause of the Party and Socialism," and "Following the Well-Tried Leninist Path." In its unflagging struggle for peace, RABOTNICHESKO DELO points out, Lenin's party cooperates closely with fraternal communist, workers, and revolutionary democratic parties and advocates the unity and active collaboration of all revolutionary forces. Thus it has been and will continue to be.

Looking after and comprehensively strengthening fraternal friendship with the countries of the great socialist community is the prime precept of the CPSU and the Soviet state, Tserendashiyn Namsray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, has stated. The Soviet Union will continue to do everything in its power to expand collaboration with socialist states in order to enhance socialism's role and influence in world affairs. This principled course meets with the most fervent support in socialist Mongolia.

The CPSU and the SRV and the Soviet and Vietnamese states will continue to collaborate actively in the interests of preserving peace and strengthening security, as the Soviet Union has always shown solidarity with the Vietnamese people's struggle against the intrigues of imperialism and its accomplices and in favor of turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and good-neighborliness, Vietnam's NHAN DAN writes. The socialist community's growing might and cohesion serve the cause of peace and social progress.

FRG Gederal Chancellor H. Kohl has stated: "My main impression from the conversations in Moscow is that East-West relations can make progress. A desire to ensure that the Geneva talks are successful ran through all the conversations."

The first Soviet-Japanese summit in 11 years will have a positive influence on further relations between our two countries, Japanese Prime Minister Y. Nakasone has told parliament. As the newspaper ASAHI stresses, the Soviet Union has clearly and precisely confirmed its course of peaceful coexistence with all countries. At the same time Moscow has reemphasized that maintaining and strengthening peace are bound up in the most direct way with the achievement of disarmament. The pursuit by Japan of a real peace-loving policy would undoubtedly help improve Japanese-Soviet relations.

Canadian Prime Minister B. Mulroney has stated: "Moscow attaches great significance to the Geneva dialogue and is intent on ensuring its success."

The Soviet Union's desire to continue energetically seeking to reduce international tension and its determination to make serious efforts to achieve progress in the coming Soviet-American talks has evoked a sense of deep satisfaction in all sensible Americans, Alan (Thompson), executive director of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, has said. These talks will not be easy, but I hope that the United States, under pressure from world public opinion, will adopt a stance which will enable success to be achieved in Geneva. Regarding the Soviet Union, there can be no doubt that strengthening peace remains today, as in the past, the main goal of the Soviet people and Soviet Government.

PRAVDA CITES FOREIGN SOURCES ON CPSU PLENUM

PM151548 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS roundup: "A Consistent, Principled Policy"]

[Text] The Soviet Union is fully determined to continue increasing its efforts to stop the arms race and remove the threat of world thermonuclear catastrophe and confirms its readiness to maintain good-neighborly relations with all countries on the principles of peaceful coexistence and on the basis of equality and mutually beneficial cooperation. This is the central theme of the broad international responses to the results of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum and the speeches by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum and the funeral meeting in Moscow. The world press is giving prominent coverage of M.S. Gorbachev's meetings and conversations with the heads of the Warsaw Pact states' party and state delegations and the leaders of other socialist, Western, and developing countries.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum, Bulgaria's RABOTNICHESKO DELO writes, focused the Soviet people's attention on the key tasks of speeding up the country's socioeconomic development and strengthening its economic and defense might. Satisfying Soviet people's growing needs and improving their working and living conditions have always been and remains a most important concern of the CPSU and Soviet state. The clear and consistent Soviet foreign policy course -- a course of peace and progress aimed at stopping the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, on earth and preventing it in space and removing the threat of war -- was confirmed with utter persuasiveness.

As NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (GDR) notes, a common determination to continue improving all-around political collaboration and economic, ideological, and other cooperation was expressed at the friendly meeting in Moscow with the heads of the party and state delegations from the Warsaw Pact countries.

The Soviet Union is firmly convinced that today, when the threat of nuclear war looms over mankind, the only sensible way out of the prevailing situation is for an accord between the opposing forces to immediately stop the arms race, Czechoslovakia's RUDE PRAVO stresses.

"My meeting with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was very constructive and very cordial and friendly," Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi told journalists on his return to Delhi from Moscow. "After this meeting I am convinced that the relations of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and India will continue to develop and will be very good."

R. Gandhi said that M..S. Gorbachev's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and at the funeral meeting in Red Square made a great impression on him. "They were very positive statements, particularly on questions of foreign policy," he observed. "The general secretary's attitude to the problem of disarmament -- the most difficult of all problems existing in the world today for everyone -- is very positive, and we hope that matters in this sphere will proceed in the right direction."

Americans press agencies covering the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's reception of U.S. Vice President G. Bush report that M.S. Gorbachev noted the importance of Soviet-American relations and confirmed the Soviet Union's readiness, given the same on the American side, to work in a practical way to improve them.

This, as was stressed in Moscow, would be of great significance for improving the international situation as a whole and for strengthening peace. At the same time, the agencies point out, Moscow again stated that the USSR will never forsake its legitimate security interests or the interests of its allies.

After his conversation with M.S. Gorbachev, U.S. Vice President G. Bush, as reported by UPI, described his Kremlin meeting as "constructive." He said that the conversation gave him hope for an improvement in Soviet-American relations. The vice president avoided giving a direct answer to the question of whether the possibility of holding a Soviet-American summit meeting was discussed, stating that he did not intend to discuss the details of the conversation. At the same time he said: I think, as does the President, that a summit meeting would be useful. We are not saying that no important problems exist. There are clearly major problems and important divergences between the United States and the USSR which have existed for years and will continue to exist in the future. But the situation is such that, in our viewpoint, a suitable moment has arrived for us to move forward, and I hope that we have properly set forth the U.S. President's views on this.

The Soviet Union, America's ABC television company reports, is in favor of good-neighborly relations with all countries on the principles of peaceful coexistence and on the basis of equality and mutually beneficial cooperation.

The Soviet Union, Canada's TORONTO STAR points out, has sent a positive peace message to the West. Moscow has stated that it seeks to establish an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding in the international arena. This signal is an open invitation to the West for joint efforts for peace and disarmament.

In a BBC television interview British Prime Minister Thatcher stated that both sides expressed a readiness to develop political dialogue during her meeting with the CPSU Central Committee general secretary. I think, the prime minister said, that the reaching of agreement between East and West and the development of mutual cooperation can only be welcomed.

Britain's THE GUARDIAN writes: The Soviet Union has stressed again its desire for peace and mutually beneficial cooperation with all countries.

The CPSU Central Committee, France's LE MATIN notes, paid particular attention to the very important problems confronting the Land of the Soviets today. It stressed the particular significance of intensifying production with the aim of further increasing the peoples' material well-being and spiritual level.

The Soviet leader, West Germany's SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG sums up, put forward a large-scale program to increase Soviet people's prosperity, stressing the need to strengthen labor and production discipline and develop the masses' creative initiative.

The CPSU Central Committee reaffirmed that peace and socialism are indivisible, Cyprus KHARAVYI stresses. The Leninist foreign policy will be continued with the aim of developing peaceful coexistence and cooperation among states for the sake of detente and freeing mankind from the nuclear threat. The West must respond clearly and unambiguously to this peace message.

The Soviet Union, Japan's YOMIURI notes, is firmly determined to continue pursuing a course of relaxing international tension. At the same time Moscow has stressed that the USSR maintain its defense capability at an appropriate level.

Today, as in the past, the Soviet Union sees ending the nuclear arms race as its most important task, Delhi's HINDUSTAN TIMES observes. Moscow proposes freezing nuclear arsenals and halting further missile deployment and firmly opposes plans to militarize space.

The extraordinary CPSU Central Commission plenum, Jorge Cruickshank, secretary general of Mexico's Popular Socialist Party Central Committee, demonstrated the monolithic unity of the Communist Party and the Soviet people. It confirmed the steadfastness of the USSR's foreign and domestic policy elaborated at the 26th CPSU Congress. The Soviet Union adopts a firm and consistent stance on questions of limiting the arms race.

In confirming its principled and consistent course of peace and progress the Soviet Union has demonstrated its high sense of responsibility for the planet's fate, Brazilian National Congress Deputy Arthur Virgilio Netu has stated. The USSR has always been and remains a true ally of the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America in their struggle to strengthen their national independence, and this principled stance is highly esteemed in the world.

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL PRESIDIUM OPENS SESSION

LD221041 Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow 22 TASS -- The Presidium of the World Peace Council has opened a session in Moscow today.

It is discussing the world historic significance of the victory over nazism in World War II and its lessons for the current struggle against the danger of a nuclear war. The agenda also provides for discussing the pressing tasks of the world peace movement in terminating the nuclear arms race on earth and preventing its extension to outer space. The session will also examine proposals for extension to outer space. The session will also examine proposals for events to mark the 40th anniversary of the United Nations organizations and international peace year.

Boris Ponomarev, an alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee and a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, read out a message of greetings from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to the session participants.

The session is being attended by representatives of parties, trade unions, and anti-war movements of nearly 100 countries.

Supreme Soviet Greetings

LD221034 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0918 GMT 22 Mar

[Text] Moscow, 22 Mar (TASS) -- We are transmitting the full text of the greeting:

"To the participants in the session of the Presidium of the World Peace Council

Esteemed friends!

The presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet ardently greets the participants in the session of the Presidium of the World Peace Council.

You represent a broad and mass antiwar movement in which people of different social status, political views, and ideological convictions are actively working. The popular masses' realization of the threatening danger of war rouses them to the struggle for the sake of the salvation of life itself on earth. The collective reason of humankind manifests itself in this with special force.

Your meeting is discussing the pressing talks of the peace movement under the sign of the approaching 40th anniversary of the great victory of the peoples over Hitlerite fascism and of the end of World War II. This was a victory of freedom and democracy over barbarism and arbitrariness, a triumph of reason over madness. Humankind remembers that peace was won at the price of the lives of millions who perished and left an eternal behest to the living: Peace must be defended and strengthened before the salvos of war ring out.

People want peace. Yet in Western Europe, which is already saturated with all types of weapons, hundreds of new American nuclear missiles are being deployed against the will of the peoples. The arms mountain is growing in other parts of the world, too. The militaristic forces of imperialism have given birth to sinister "star wars" plans.

The placing of striking weapons in space is not a matter of projects for the distant future, but a terrible danger in the very near future. Let no one be fooled by assertions that these plans are of a 'defensive' nature. The intention is to take cover beneath a 'space shield,' and then keep the whole world in fear and dictate their will to other peoples.

The Soviet Union resolutely advocates that the USSR and the United States should fulfill their accords concerning the content of their talks in Geneva, that is, it is in favor of preventing the militarization of space and achieving an appreciable reduction of nuclear arms, both strategic and medium-range, with the ultimate aim of the total abolition of all nuclear arsenals everywhere. Today, that is the main demand of those who want to preserve peace.

Even though the programs of peace supporters' organizations and movements are quite different from one another, they all have the common features of considering it necessary to stop the onslaught of militarism as soon as possible, to halt the arms race, and embark upon real disarmament. In the historic Stockholm appeal of 1950, the World Peace Council called for a ban on nuclear weaponry and for any government daring to make first use of the latter to be declared a war criminal. That appeal, which was supported by hundreds of millions of people, remains relevant today as well.

The Soviet Union will continue to do everything within its power to remove the threat of nuclear war. It was for this purpose that it took such a historically important unilateral step as refusing to make first use of nuclear weaponry and called upon other nuclear powers to follow its example. Our country is constantly paving the way toward specific accords that could delay the arms race and later reverse its completely, reducing the buildup of international tension.

The Soviet Union has come out in favor of a 'freeze' on all nuclear armaments, or, as a beginning, on those of the USSR and United States. It has proposed stopping all tests of nuclear weapons and has made many other proposals which remain in force and serve as a realistic alternative to the policy of enmity and the buildup of arms. These peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union meet halfway the proposals and demands being put forth by the broadest sections of the international peace-loving public.

The present dangerous situation requires that the antiwar forces step up and coordinate their efforts further in order to convert the desire of the peoples to live in peace into practical solutions. May the voice of your hearts and minds, the voice of the conscience of humankind, ring out across the planet, praising those who are struggling and calling to action all people of goodwill!

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT GROUP MEETS

LD210453 Moscow TASS in English 2059 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 20 TASS -- The Consultative Council of the Socialist International on disarmament arrived in Moscow today. It comprises Kalevi Sorsa, vice-chairman of the Socialist International, chairman of the Council and chairman of Finland's Social-Democratic Party; Penti Varanen, general secretary of the Socialist International; as well as Council members representing Socialist and Social Democratic Parties of Austria, Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain, Finland, France, Switzerland, and Japan.

The arrival of the Consultative Council to the Soviet Union has the aim of continuing the dialogue, carried out in recent years, on topical international problems of the struggle for peace and curbing the arms race.

Ponomarev Addresses Group

LD212158 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A meeting between the CPSU delegation and the Consultative Council of the Socialist International on disarmament was held today. The Consultative Council delegation is led by Kalevi Sorsa, vice president of Socialist International and chairman of the Social-Democratic Party of Finland. The meeting was addressed by Boris Nikolayevich Ponomarev and Kalevi Sorsa. An exchange of views was begun on topical international problems of the struggle for peace and for curbing the arms race.

EAST-WEST MEDIA MEETING HELD IN THE HAGUE

PM201251 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Constructive Discussion"]

[Text] The Hague, 19 Mar -- On the initiative of the private Netherlands organization the Alerdinck Foundation, a discussion meeting of representatives of the mass media from a number of countries was held in the Netherlands devoted to East-West relations. V.V. Lomeyko, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium and chief of the Foreign Ministry Press Department, and An. A. Gromyko, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Africa Institute, took part in the meeting.

A communique issued by the Alerdinck Foundation described the 2-day meeting as exceptionally constructive. In a relaxed atmosphere, journalists and other representatives of the mass media exchanged opinions on topical questions of international relations and discussed ways of strengthening confidence in the interests of preserving peace. The Soviet participants in the meeting took part in a debate on Netherlands television. They set forth the fundamentals of the peace-loving Soviet foreign policy and answered a number of questions. The Alerdinck Foundation is planning to hold regular unofficial East-West meetings between journalists.

GROMYKO MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR 21 MAR

LD211847 Moscow TASS in English 1838 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR foreign minister, today received Arthur Hartman, the United States ambassador to the USSR, at his request.

During their conversation they touched upon different aspects of bilateral Soviet-American relations, questions connected with the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms and some topical international problems to which both sides attach much importance.

REAGAN REPORT STRESSES USSR-FOREIGN COOPERATION

LD212133 Moscow TASS in English 2053 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev reports:

Achievements of science and technology, as well as international cooperation in the sphere must serve to the utmost the task of building up the United States military potential. Such is the meaning of the annual report on the United States international activity in the sphere of science and technology sent to the Congress by President Reagan.

Both the report and the letter of the chief of the White House enclosed with it state outright that the U.S. Administration is attaching an ever greater importance to the use of scientific and technical potential of foreign countries for the consolidation of the United States might in the "national security sphere". According to the report, one of the main examples of the development of the United States "cooperation" with the other countries is furnished by Washington's ties with Tokyo.

As is known, the United States reached in 1983 an arrangement with Japan in whose framework the United States received broad access to the Japanese technology serving military purposes.

As another example the report cites the activity of NATO's division of scientific affairs, which, as it is intimated in the report, is aimed, specifically, at ensuring the flow to the United States of technological novelties with military applications, the novelties created by the United States' allies in the bloc. According to estimates of observers, this kind of "cooperation" assumes special significance now that the United States, which is speeding up work on the "star wars" programme, makes no secret about its interest in drawing other NATO countries in this work.

Seeking to intensify such "exchanges", the Reagan administration at the same time declares for the curtailment of mutually advantageous scientific and technical contacts of other Western states with socialist countries or for the use of achievements in science and technology as an instrument of political blackmail and pressure on the world of socialism.

ATMOSPHERE DURING USSR DELEGATION TRIP ANALYZED

PM211845 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 3

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer Stanislav Kodrashov: "A Goodwill Mission"]

[Text] Washington-Moscow -- On the first Sunday in March an IL-62 aircraft crossed the Atlantic and traveled in a north-south direction along the eastern seaboard of the United States. It was in the middle of a sunny, clear day. Far below on the starboard side of the aircraft I could see the bare, reddish land of another continent which has not yet burst into spring blossom and which was strewn and abounding in other signs of the life and activity of million of human beings, indistinguishable from high up. Some passengers were glued to the windows with the curiosity of novices, others with the zealous air of frequent visitors, experts, habitues testing their knowledge and memory. Someone was the first to shout: "New York!" The walls and roofs of the Manhattan skyscrapers, looking smaller from that height, reached up to the skies; a tiny figure, the Statute of Liberty, could be seen standing in the harbor. The Soviet aircraft traveled south, toward Washington, following the border between land and water.

Crossing the Atlantic by air is no problem today. There are dozens of flights every day linking Europe with North America. It has long since ceased to be an object of wonder and, consequently, it is no longer described. If I, a habitue, begin my notes with a description of the land flashing by beneath the aircraft's wing, it is not because I have discovered a strange land, but because it was the wing of a Soviet aircraft. In Soviet-American relations, as we know too well, there are periods of regression when yesterday's hard-won norm is once again abolished and becomes the exception. In the seventies Aeroflot flights to New York and Washington were the norm, 2-3 a week. Now they are an exception again -- 1-2 a year, special flights, by special agreement.

The regression began under Carter and accelerated under Reagan. But what kind of administration today would abolish not only Aeroflot flights, but also the need for dialogue between the two main nuclear powers?

Since the Soviet-American meeting in Geneva in January, 1985 has pronounced itself the year of new hopes and tests, new efforts to find a way out of the dangerous and ever increasing tension. March also witnessed a Soviet goodwill mission to the United States. On board the IL-62 flying to Washington was a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, the first to visit the United States after a gap of approximately 7 years. It was headed by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, member of the CPSU Central Politburo, and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee.

The political work done by the delegation during its stay in Washington has been covered in detail in our press. Now, on returning, I would like to share a few impressions. When you reflect, you reach the conclusion that these impressions consist of several layers.

The first is the ceremonial and protocol layer. When the aircraft landed at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington and came to a halt by a waiting group of congressmen and other officials, a tall, well-built Negro in military uniform stood in the foreground. Bending over a thick roll of carpet, he unrolled a red path to the aircraft.

This is exactly how an honorary reception is described in America -- a red carpet welcome.

The Soviet delegation was received with the respect due to the status of the Soviet parliament and the high rank of the delegation's leader. The Americans formed their own delegation for discussions on Capitol Hill. It was headed by Thomas Foley, deputy leader of the Democratic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, who visited the Soviet Union in 1983 together with a group of congressmen. Our deputies also had many other meetings. Practically the entire leadership of Congress took part in them -- T. O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives; J. Wright, leader of the House Democratic majority; R. Dole, leader of the Senate Republican majority; R. Byrd, leader of the Senate Democratic minority; and eminent senators and congressmen. Speaker O'Neill used his authority to assign the Statuary Hall for one of the meetings which, as it was explained to us, was a sign of special distinction. During the last few years Great Britain's Queen Elizabeth was the only foreign visitor to be honored in this hall with its high dome and sculptures of various figures and heroes from different states. The reception organized by the Senate leadership was attended by Secretary of State G. Shultz, who himself later gave a dinner in honor of the delegation. Finally, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy was received by U.S. President R. Reagan.

Indeed nothing can replace the need for dialogue and contacts, including between the two countries' parliaments which are called upon to express the will of both peoples. Both Soviet and American participants in the meetings invariably spoke of this when greeting one another. It seems to me that this was not simply an exchange of pleasantries, but an expression of a need of which people have become aware again over the last few years of difficult and strained relations. We witnessed an agreement in principle and on a common approach, despite all the substantial differences on specific issues. Not a bad sign. We must fly more often to one another, we must meet one another more often, making all efforts for mutual understanding.

The central theme in statements by the Soviet delegation's leader and its members was the readiness for the constructive development of Soviet-American relations, given similar readiness by the other side. How did the U.S. congressmen respond to this call? They also spoke out in favor of the improvement of relations between the two countries, which in turn would lead to a reduction of the threat of nuclear war. I see no reason to doubt the sincerity of these declarations. Ultimately, the most terrible realities of the nuclear age rise above all ideological and political barriers and are clearly visible above them. In our age only madmen can dream of playing the role of instigators of a war in whose flames they themselves would perish. Enjoying the warm glow of profit from the arms race is one thing, but proceeding to deliberate self-immolation is something quite different.

That, in short, was the first, favorable layer of impressions gained during those few days of observing at close range the Soviet-American interparliamentary meeting, but when you go further, deeper, you immediately expose a stratum of differences which have existed for decades and which cannot, of course, be cut through in just a few days.

The concrete political atmosphere was determined in those days on both sides by the expectation of the commencement of the new Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms. Hopes for a change for the better in Soviet-American relations and in the whole international situation were, and are, pinned on Geneva. But the eve of Geneva coincided with the Reagan administration's pushing through Congress a new budget, and above all, record military spending. The main power of the U.S. Congress is the power of the moneybags, the control over the exchequer. The wider the Congress opens the moneybags and the more willingly it votes for new military programs, the sooner the Russians will come to an agreement in Geneva -- that was the overture to the talks which was played on Capitol Hill by the White House, engaging in an unusually tough anti-Soviet campaign.

As this campaign raged, the Soviet deputies were meeting with American legislators. Their repeated question to their interlocutors was entirely opposite: How can this zealous agitation for new armaments be reconciled with the task of arms reduction, how can this show of hostility and distrust toward the Soviet Union be reconciled with the goodwill necessary for the success of the talks? Alas, the most irreproachably logical arguments cannot "break" your opponent when he bows to a different, more important logic, the logic of his life and system, in which this or that policy is developed deep down, by complex paths. The American participants in the discussions preferred not to answer these questions, but one of them did state frankly that, in the main, Congress supports the strategic arms "modernization" program which President Reagan has been implementing for some years now. In general, and it was logical to expect this, in the face of the Soviet parliamentarians, the American congressmen, even the critically minded ones, demonstrated their agreement with the administration rather than disagreement.

This negative agreement also made itself felt when the highly topical and important question of preventing the militarization of space was touched on. Not for nothing have observers of American political life been saying recently that President Reagan has made his favorite "Strategic Defense Initiative," which paves the way for new rounds of the arms race, a kind of test of loyalty, which has to be passed both by staffers on his administration and by the people on Capitol Hill. Under this pressure and in this psychological climate, many Congressmen close their eyes to the new dangers of destabilization of the strategic situation in the world, preferring, at the White House's prompting, to see only the purely "research" nature of the President's initiative.

The conservative shift which first brought the incumbent President to power 4 years ago and then led to his reelection remains the determining element of the present-day U.S. political landscape. The liberals of the late sixties and early seventies who demanded a sharp reduction in military expenditure have been driven out of Congress or have adapted to the new, tougher circumstances. You can count on your fingers the number of those who now openly dispute the most important foreign policy postulate of "Reaganism" -- the buildup of U.S. military might and a position of strength policy.

But every cloud has a silver lining, as they say. It is well known that at the November elections the impressive victory of the Republican Reagan over the Democrat Mondale was not accompanied by the same success for the Republican Party and its conservative wing. In the House of Representatives the Democrats retained a majority large enough to counter pressure from the administration if they so desire. The Republicans' slight preponderance in the Senate remained, but the proportion of more moderate senators, and not extreme conservatives, increased. It is believed that at the 1986 mid-term elections the Democrats may also win a majority in the Senate. In addition, the present distribution of forces is characterized by the fact that the legislators are inclined to take less account of a president elected for the second, and final, term. In which direction are these factors operating? As a whole, the new Congress is having a restraining influence on the administration, well known for its attacks on social aid programs and its ostentatious toughness on the foreign policy plane.

The astronomical federal budget deficits, which have become the most alarming domestic U.S. problem, are causing a less eager loosening of the purse strings to meet ever new military spending. Not so long ago the Senate Budget Committee, which is controlled by the Republicans, voted for a reduction of $79 billion in military appropriations over the next 3 years, against the request of the White House. The administration is engaged in unprecedentedly intensive indoctrination of an obdurate Congress to obtain funding for its "secret war" against revolutionary Nicaragua. Even greater pressure is being brought to bear to extract $1.5 billion for a new consignment of MX missiles.

The President is scarcely likely to obtain in full the $26 billion he has requested for the implementation of his "Strategic Defense Initiative" over the next 5 years.

To end my comments I want to recall two facts which emerge from the history of Soviet-U.S. relations. First, these relations have almost never been easy. Second, whatever the difficulties, the two countries must seek paths to peaceful coexistence. The Soviet Union invariably adheres to this objective, and the goodwill mission undertaken by the Soviet parliamentary delegation is new proof of that. "We have flown thousands of kilometers to come here and left behind important business at home to ensure that the zone of alienation between our peoples becomes narrower, if only by an inch," V.V. Shcherbitskiy said in a speech. I think the zone of alienation has narrowed in the consciousness of many Americans who observed our delegation's work in Washington and met with it during its brief stay on American soil.

ARMY PAPER ARTICLE ON U.S. NAVAL POWER, PART I

PM211654 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[First part of article "based on foreign press material" by Captain 1st Rank B. Ronionov: "In Pursuit of Superiority at Sea" -- first two paragraphs are KRASNAYA ZVEZDA introduction]

[Text] Much attention is devoted to naval forces in Washington's militarist preparations aimed at attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union. These forces are extensively used as one of the main tools of U.S. foreign policy expansion and of violence in the international arena. "Neither President Reagan nor I," U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger declared, "have any doubts that the U.S. Navy will dominate the seas right through to the next century." More and more new areas of the world ocean are being drawn into the dangerous arms race. At the same time, the last few years have particularly clearly shown the U.S. Navy's role as the guard dog of imperialism, ready at any moment to break loose from the chains of its anchors and rush off to stifle national liberation movements or unleash military adventures.

Today we begin the publication of a series of articles on the state, structure, and organization of U.S. Naval Forces and their use in the implementation of Washington's aggressive foreign policy.

1. The U.S. Navy in the Atlantic

The ensign flown by the U.S. Navy warships depicts a rattlesnake and the pretentious motto: "Don't tread on me!" But the exact opposite has always applied -- the snake has not defended itself, but has actually attacked. It has been calculated that in the last 10 years alone the United States has made direct or indirect use of armed force on 120 occasions. The U.S. Navy has traditionally been in the first echelons of aggression. "The Navy has at all times been the main branch of the U.S. Armed Forces aimed at attaining political goals," the authors of a report prepared by the U.S. Brookings Institution claim. It is typical that the U.S. Navy accounts for over 50 percent of nuclear charges within the "triad" of strategic forces.

The Atlantic was the first of the planet's oceans to be opened up by man. It has seen much during its age-old history, but never before has it been as dangerous for mankind as it is in our time, and it has become so as a result of the militarist activity of Pentagon strategists.

The most intensive saturation of the Atlantic with various types of weapons has occurred over the last 25 years.

This process began in November 1960, when the nuclear submarine George Washington sailed on combat patrol with Polaris ballistic missiles on board. The appearance of strategic weapons carriers capable of operating secretly and of maintaining for a prolonged time constant readiness to launch missiles of enormous destructive power led to changes in the U.S. military-political leadership's views on the methods of waging war. During those years the Pentagon openly changed the military machine's course toward a "blue water" strategy, transforming first the Atlantic and then the other seas and oceans into vast launchpads for missiles targeted on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

For 25 years the weapons carriers have improved and their numbers have grown. The U.S. Atlantic Fleet now contains 34 missile-carrying submarines. They have put to sea on combat patrol on more than 2,200 occasions and are operating there even now. But the buildup of U.S. offensive strategic forces in the Atlantic occurred not at the expense of, but in parallel with, the reinforcement of the remaining links in the aggressive chain. The U.S. Navy has fully retained its "traditional tasks," which Admiral Mahan, ideologist of U.S. imperialism, defend as follows as far back as the end of last century: "He who rules the sea, rules the world."

According to the evaluation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Atlantic Fleet's so-called "general purpose forces," which do not include the missile-carrying submarines, "are highly eloquent evidence of the United States' readiness to implement a policy of deterrence." These forces include over 50 multipurpose nuclear submarines, up to 7 aircraft carriers, including 2 nuclear-powered carriers, 11 missile cruisers (4 nuclear-powered), more than 40 destroyers, about 50 frigates; and 30 large landing ships, some of which carry aircraft. The fleet air arm numbers over 800 aircraft and 470 helicopters.

The Atlantic Fleet's general purpose forces serve as a highly trained strategic forces reserve. Over 2,700 nuclear munitions are deployed on board their ships. Their delivery vehicles, the 280 carrier-based ground attack aircraft on the aircraft carriers' decks, are capable of striking deep inside the territory of the socialist countries. The ships are being equipped on a massive scale with Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Preparing the Atlantic Fleet for war, the U.S. command is making its structure approximate as closely as possible the combat structure. According to the system prevailing within the U.S. Armed Forces, worked out back in World War II, the fleet has a dual organization -- administrative (daily) and operational (combat). Under the daily organization, the ships, vessels, and aviation are parts of formation of homogeneous forces and undergo repairs, rehearse tasks, and are trained for operations as part of heterogeneous forces. These forces, consisting of ships of different classes, aviation, and support ships are united in operational formations and belong to the 2d and 6th operational fleets.

The 2d operational fleet, which is numerically the largest, is based on the U.S. east coast and trains forces for the 6th Fleet and the NATO strike fleet. The 6th operational fleet operates in the Mediterranean and uses bases belonging to U.S. allies and shipborne rear services. The organization of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet is structured so that it can be used from the very beginning of combat operations without any reorganization in the structure of NATO Allied Armed Forces.

Several times a year the Atlantic becomes the arena for training battles and engagements distinguished by their vast scope and the participation of enormous forces. The NATO strategists use the flexing of military muscles to demonstrate their resolve to solve world problems by force and keep the world on the brink of war. The Atlantic Ocean is also considered one of the main regions of combat operations during a world nuclear war.

Preparing for war, the Pentagon is enmeshing the Atlantic Ocean and adjoining countries in a network of military bases and airfields, radio communications, and navigation stations, and global intelligence-gathering facilities. The hydrophonic cable installations of the system for submarine detection at extra-long range stretch out along the floor of the ocean and its seas like the tentacles of a gigantic octopus. U.S. aircraft constantly patrol above the Atlantic's waters.

In preparing for the "battle for the Atlantic," the United States is pursuing the goal of diverting the conflagration of war from its own territory. "Americans proceed from the premise that World War III will be fought just like World Wars I and II -- in Europe," U.S. officials declare quite unambiguously. And reliable lines of communication are needed in order to fight "to the last European" several thousand miles from the American Continent. The Pentagon calculates that 2.5 million metric tons of combat equipment, 6 million metric tons of ammunition, 15 million metric tons of fuel, and other freight will have to be delivered to Europe by sea in the initial period of the war alone. "The breakdown or substantial disruption of shipments are fraught with defeat for NATO in Europe," Admiral McDonald, NATO supreme allied commander Atlantic, claims. Therefore, the Pentagon seconds him, it is necessary to "lock the Russians" in their bases. This is reflected in the new strategy of "direct confrontation," with its concept of "forward borders." More and more new scenarios for aggression are rehearsed in virtually never-ending militarist exercises and maneuvers.

Nevertheless, the times of the imperialists' undivided dominion and outrages in the seas and oceans have receded into the past. Until relatively recent times, certain areas of the Atlantic Ocean were considered preserves of the U.S. Navy, but such areas no longer exist.

Our ships fly on their masts flags carrying the Red Star, symbol of unwavering staunchness and military courage. The Pentagon admirals' hopes of attaining military superiority are futile. Our nerves are strong, and we have been thoroughly tempered.

REAGAN REFUSES TO CONDEMN ISRAEL, RSA 'CRIMES'

LD220925 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 22 TASS -- The White House has hurried to take two of its main clients and "partners", the South African regime of apartheid and the Zionist rulers of Israel, under its protection after they have committed more bloody crimes.

Speaking at a press conference, President Reagan flatly declined to utter even a word of condemnation in respect of Tel Aviv whose soldiery killed two reporters of the American television network CBS in South Lebanon yesterday. He said he did not believe that that had been "a deliberate killing", adding: "These things can happen". According to eyewitness accounts, however, the reporters were killed in a cold-blooded attack by Israeli occupiers.

The White House chief also refused to condemn the Pretoria regime for staging a veritable massacre in a Port Elizabeth suburb in which over 40 Africans were killed. However, Reagan tried to accuse the Africans themselves of what had happened, by alleging that they did not want a "peaceful settlement" in South Africa. The President made it clear that Pretoria could continue counting on the backing of the United States which, as is known, maintains a policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa, which is tantamount to patronage to the apartheid regime. The head of the American Administration said there would be no changes in that policy.

U.S. SIGNALS' SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S POLICIES

LD212311 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

The word "signal" is a frequently used one in the vocabulary of some Western observers. It is used, as a rule, when in absence of trustworthy facts the latter are replaced with mere guesswork. But there are no rules without exceptions, and at times such "signals" are so frank, that there is no need to make any assumptions.

Such a signal has come from Washington, where one of the House subcommittees rubber-stamped without any change the request of the administration for the granting of aid to Israel for the coming fiscal year. 1.8 billion dollars are granted as a non-repayable loan to the Zionist state for military aims. American donations to the Israeli economy will total 1.2 billion.

Meanwhile, another committee of the same House of Representatives has unanimously endorsed another agreement, which Israel had long sought: on the removal of practically all barriers in trade between the two countries.

What does this signal from Washington mean? Above all the wish to ensure for Israel military superiority over the Arab neighbours and the potential to continue the policy of aggression and expansionism in the region, the readiness of the White House to keep "afloat" whatever the price the economy of its "strategic ally" which this adventurist policy has brought to a verge of a catastrophe. At last it is a signal that the USA does not wish to budge an inch of the spirit and letter of the "memorandum on strategic cooperation" which was signed in Washington in November 1981. As everything that the United States rubberstamps today was to be found in the document which, for that matter, gave a "green light" to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

What conclusions can be drawn from the "signals" of this kind coming from Washington? First, one cannot help drawing the conclusion that all hope for any change in the U.S. Administration's policy in the Middle East, for a "balanced approach" on the part of the White House to the fundamental problems of that region are illusory. They are most explicitly refuted by the concrete actions of the U.S. Administration. Washington, as Jamal al-Surani, member of the PLO Executive Committee, stressed in an interview with the Egyptian MENA agency, invariably upholds the interests of Israel, which refuses even to recognize the very existence of the Palestinian people. The second conclusion following from the first one, is that only a consolidation of the efforts by the Arab countries in the struggle for a truly just comprehensive Middle East settlement based on unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, implementation of the inalienable national rights of Palestinians, can pave the way towards genuine and lasting peace in the Middle East.

INCREASINGLY DIRECT U.S. ROLE IN DRA ALLEGED

PM211435 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[Own observer V. Vinogradov article: "In the Role of Direct Participant: The United States Increases Its Interference in DRA Affairs"]

[Text] The Reagan administration is increasing its efforts to justify the undeclared war it is waging against Democratic Afghanistan in the eyes of the world public.

To this end, the USIA recently arranged a clearly provocative broadcast on the "situation in Afghanistan" on the Worldnet international telecommunications system which it owns. Resorting to brazen lies, the creators of this television opus sought to denigrate the present Afghan Government's policy while depicting the counterrevolutionary rabble who are waging an ignoble war against their own people as "freedom fighters." Moreover, all kinds of anti-Afghan rallies are regularly organized in Washington and a so-called Afghanistan Day is held annually in March.

To pass off these out-and-out bandits on the U.S. CIA payroll as "fighters for the liberation of their country" one needs either to have a very rich imagination or simply to lie through one's teeth. After all, these imperialist mercenaries, according to official figures issued in Kabul, have destroyed 1,814 of the country's school buildings, 31 hospitals, 906 peasant cooperatives, 14,000 km of telephone lines, and many bridges. The direct cost of the damage caused by their criminal activity is in excess of 35 billion afghanis. In their attacks on settlements they spare neither children, nor women, nor old men.

Reports are coming from Pakistan that the "headquarters" of various Afghan counterrevolutionary groupings on Pakistan territory are drawing up plans for new acts of sabotage in Herat, Nangarhar, Badakhshan, and other provinces in the DRA. At a press conference in Islamabad the dushman leaders openly declared their intention of escalating their terrorist activity on Afghan territory. In doing so, they did not conceal that the new bloody crimes are being planned with the participation of American "advisers."

The participation of these "advisers" from the ranks of the CIA forms a direct part of the undeclared war which the U.S. imperialists have now been waging against the Afghan people for more than 5 years. The scale of this undeclared war is being constantly increased. The subversive actions against the DRA are carried out as part of a special program which bears the designation "secret paramilitary operations." Afghanistan's BAKHTAR news agency reports that the CIA organized a seminar in Honduras for an exchange of "experience" in which representatives of Afghan and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary gangs took part. At the same time the United States has begun terrorist training for dushmans right on its own territory. The first group of Afghan counterrevolutionaries selected by American instructors in camps on Pakistani territory have already arrived there. It is envisaged that small but well-armed and well-equipped groups will be created from these cutthroats to operate on Afghan territory itself, causing significant damage to military, economic, and civil installations. The U.S. Administration has thus, the news agency stresses, finally cast aside its mask and is now operating openly not only as an instigator and coordinator of aggression against the DRA but as a direct participant in it.

Washington is, of course, doing its utmost to camouflage its criminal actions. U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Arnold Raphael, who took part in the television broadcast organized by the USIA, hypocritically declared that Washington intends to comprehensively increase its "humanitarian aid" to the so-called Afghan refugees. But he also acknowledged that the United States will do everything necessary to support the forces opposing the people's power in Afghanistan. American Senator Sasser, well known for his reactionary views, has intimated that supplies of the most up-to-date weapons, including antiaircraft missiles, will be increased in the very near future.

But after all, even without the increase, THE WASHINGTON POST has written, citing well-informed officials, "the CIA's covert aid to the rebels in Afghanistan has turned into the biggest U.S. clandestine operation since the Vietnam war."

The U.S. Congress, the newspaper points out, has sharply increased appropriations, earmarking $250-280 million for these purposes in fiscal 1985. Moreover, a number of other countries are planning to appropriate a further $200 million for the bandits' use. As these same officials pointed out, THE WASHINGTON POST writes, the question of assigning no less then $600 million in the next fiscal year for the conduct of subversive activity against the DRA is now being discussed in the U.S. capital.

It is well known that the main flow of weapons to the dushmans is through Pakistan. The Islamabad authorities have virtually given the U.S. CIA carte blanche with regard to shpping arms. And now, as the London weekly FOREIGN REPORT has related, Washington has begun in earnest to study the possibility of organizing direct airlifts of arms by U.S. Air Force aircraft to basmachi gangs operating in certain regions of Afghanistan.

All these facts indicate that the forces of imperialism and reaction are stepping up their subversive actions against Democratic Afghanistan, and this cannot be disguised by the propaganda shows that Washington puts on from time to time.

IZVESTIYA'S BOVIN VIEWS SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

AU211515 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 15 Mar 85 p 5

["Second part" of an interview given by Aleksandr Bovin, IZVESTIYA political commentator, to Bohumil Horak, chief editor of Czechoslovak radio's Main Editorial Office for International Affairs, broadcast on Czechoslovak radio on 10 March; place and date of interview not specified -- first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] We continue the recent quotation of an interview given by the prominent Soviet commentator Aleksandr Bovin to Bohumil Horak, chief editor of the Main Editorial Office for International Affairs, for the Czechoslovak radio. The second part of the interview was devoted to the latest developments in the relations between the USSR and the PRC.

[Horak] Another highly interesting issue is the problem of Soviet-Sino relations, also in connection with the current visit by a Chinese parliamentary delegation to the USSR. If I am not mistaken, this is the first such delegation since the sixties. Comrade Bovin, how do you assess the prospects of Soviet-Sino relations?

[Bovin] The very fact that a group of Chinese deputies has visited Moscow bears eloquent testimony to the positive changes in Soviet-Sino relations. Such changes do, indeed, take place and they can be observed in various fields. For example, trade relations between the USSR and China have greatly intensified. I can cite one specific figure. On 30 November last year, we signed an agreement with China on goods exchange for 1985, which provides for a 37 percent growth in the exchange of goods compared with the preceding year. This is an increase by more than one-third. This trend dates back a number of years, so that we see here a distinct positive shift. Contacts in culture and sports are also gradually developing albeit they have not been all that intensive so far, and an experts exchange program is under way.

However, the situation is not quite that simple. On the contrary, it is rather full of contradictions because our Chinese partners are coming up with certain...well, they do not call them conditions, but they say that there exist grave obstacles to the normalization of Soviet-Sino relations and that if the Soviet Union removes three great obstacles, they will be ready to normalize these relations on a broad front. How large are these obstacles, according to them? It is the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. They say: Recall your troops from Afghanistan and we will normalize mutual relations. It is the presence of Soviet troops in Mongolia, where they are within the framework of an agreement with the Mongolian Government. It is our assistance to Vietnam, the problem of Kampuchea. Our position is as follows: If it is the normalization of Soviet-Sino relations that is at stake, we should concentrate primarily on the solution of bilateral problems. The things that the Chinese are bringing up concern, after all, third parties, be it Mongolia, Vietnam, or Kampuchea, and we cannot deal with these problems with the Chinese because these are problems of a different nature.

[Horak] What, in your opinion, is the reason for this Chinese position?

[Bovin] You know, it is never easy to fathom the intentions of the other side. Nonetheless, I do think about these things. The Chinese comrades do, after all, have ample political experience; they are intelligent people. They surely understand that the Soviet Union will not go leave, let us say, Afghanistan just to improve its relations with China; they know that it will not stop giving assistance to Vietnam.

If, in spite of this, they continue to insist on these points, then I gain the impression, which may or may not be correct, that internally they are not yet ready to develop better relations which the USSR on so broad a basis. The causes of this may be varied, but the fact itself is indisputable.

Nor can we adopt a different attitude toward other political problems in connection with PRC. For example, to our profound indignation, Beijing supports the American policy of militarizing Japan. China, a socialist country, supports the deployment of new American weapons in Western Europe! I personally find it hard to comprehend the logic of such "positions." Aside from this, there exist a number of other complex and difficult problems on which our positions diverge in principle. All of this, put together, accounts for the fact that present Soviet-Sino relations are rather full of contradictions. However, if I am to speak about our wish, about our policy, then it was formulated a long time ago. We are in favor of good, friendly relations with the PRC.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES PRC DELEGATION LEADER

LD211737 Moscow TASS in English 1707 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov today received Deputy Chairman of the State Economic Committee of the People's Republic of China Zhao Weicheng, the head of a governmental delegation on transport questions now on a visit to Moscow. Questions linked with ensuring growing transportation of foreign trade cargoes between the USSR and the People's Republic of China were discussed.

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Li Zewang took part in the conversation.

USSR DOUBLES SUPPLY OF VEHICLES TO PRC SINCE 1983

LD201635 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 20 TASS -- In 1985 the Soviet foreign trade association "Avtoexport" is to supply over 40,000 trucks and passenger cars of different makes to the Chinese People's Republic to the total sum of 400 million Swiss francs.

The delivery of Soviet-built trucks and passenger cars and equipment to China more than doubled in the past two years. Way back in 1983 "Avtoexport" and the Chinese state-owned company "Machimpex" signed an agreement on servicing and maintenance of Soviet automobiles supplied to China. Under the terms of that document specialised service stations are being set up in Beijing and Shenyang. The equipment for the Shanghai station has already been delivered, and that for the Beijing station is to be shipped in the second and third quarters of 1985.

In accordance with the specialists' exchange program representatives of a number of Soviet plants visited the Chinese People's Republic in 1984, and three groups of Chinese specialists underwent training at plants in the USSR. A big program of training of Chinese specialists has been drawn up for 1985.

COMMENTARY PRAISES ECONOMIC TIES WITH DPRK

PM211551 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 5

[I. Lebedev commentary: "Strengthen Cooperation!"]

[Text] The date 17 March 1949 has taken a firm place in the annals of Soviet-Korean relations and of their fraternal friendship and cooperation: the Agreement on Economic and Cultural Cooperation signed by the Soviet Union and the DPRK on that day provided a firm foundation for developing multifarious ties between our states.

The years that have passed since that document was signed have convincingly shown that the Korean people, relying on our country's selfless assistance, have carried out major transformations in all spheres of life. Present-day People's Korea is an industrially developed state with modern industry and agriculture.

The Soviet Union rejoices at the fraternal Korean people's achievements. Soviet people were pleased to learn about the successful fulfillment of the Second 7-Year Plan for the development of the DPRK's national economy (1978-1984). Here are some figures which eloquently demonstrate the steady progress of the republic's working people. Over 17,500 plants and shops were commissioned in the industrial sphere alone during the 7-year plan. The hydroelectric and thermal power station capacity doubled and a mighty nonferrous metals production base was set up. The country now has over 200 higher education establishments.

Soviet people have also invested their labor in the DPRK's achievements. Industrial enterprises and facilities forming the basis of the republic's industry have been built in People's Korea with our country's assistance. They include the Sup'ung hydroelectric power station, the Puk-ch'on thermal power station, and a vehicle battery plant. The construction of a number of other enterprises is being completed.

Trade ties are growing. The Soviet Union holds first place in the DPRK's foreign trade turnover. In exchange for Soviet goods, the DPRK is increasing its supplies of rolled steel, nonferrous metals, machine building output, and vehicle batteries. Cooperation in the scientific and technical spheres is acquiring an ever greater scale and cultural contacts are becoming more varied.

The range of Soviet-Korean relations is broad and diverse. Our ties are equitable, fruitful, and mutually beneficial. They provide an opportunity to make fuller and more effective use of the advantages of the socialist system and promote the development of production forces and the accelerated solution of the tasks facing our countries' peoples. The fraternal relations between the USSR and DPRK will continue to develop. They are particularly apparent this year, when our two peoples are preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism.

DPRK MEETING MARKS SOVIET WORLD WAR II VICTORY

PM220914 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading "On 40th Anniversary"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 Mar -- A soiree of activists from the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society held in the DPRK capital was devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

The heroic Soviet people and their Army played the decisive role in the rout of German fascism and Japanese militarism in World War II and made a considerable contribution to saving the peoples of the countries of Europe and Asia from the threat of enslavement, O Kil-pang, deputy chairman of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society Central Board, said in his speech. The Korean people, he stressed, value friendly relations with the Soviet people and are making every effort to further strengthen them.

The assembled representatives of the DPRK public watched the Soviet documentary movie "Marshal Zhukov, Pages of His Biography," with great interest.

TALKS ON FISHING COOPERATION WITH JAPAN RESUME

LD211446 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- The Soviet Union and Japan began talks here today to discuss matters relating to the conclusion of a new Soviet-Japanese treaty on cooperation in fishing industry. Speaking at the opening meeting the heads of the delegations of the two countries stressed the great importance of cooperation in this field for bilateral relations. They expressed the hope that the present talks would be successful and the text of a new agreement would be drafted.

This is the sixth round of consultations on this subject. The need for creating a new legal basis for Soviet-Japanese cooperation in fishing stems from the fact that the two countries are parties to the U.N. convention on salmon fishing, and that certain changes have been made in the internal legislation of the USSR. There is also a mutual desire to ensure effective protection of valuable fishes.

JAPAN'S PLAN FOR SDI RESEARCH CRITICIZED

LD212055 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 21 Mar 85

["Japan: Dangerous Plans" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Japan intends to start its own research in the sphere of preparations for "star wars". As is clear from a KYODO TSUSHIN report, Prime Minister of Japan Nakasone, speaking at the budget commission of the House of Councillors on Wednesday, said that Japan should consider the efficiency of such a programme scientifically and strategically. According to the news agency, the prime minister's pronouncement gave rise to disapproval of many members of oppositional parties who believe that the Reagan "Strategic Defence Initiative", which envisages the formation of an anti-missile defence system with space-based elements, will spread the arms race to outer space.

This opinion is shared by many public leaders and politicians, scientists in the United States itself, Japan and many other countries. The Soviet Union invariably stresses that no reference to "defensive character" or "mere scientific research" can camouflage the aggressive essence of the American "star wars" programme, Washington's intentions to turn "technological advantage" over the USSR, which it seems to it that it has, into military superiority.

Way back in January this year the Japanese Government already declared in support of the Reagan "star wars" programme and now openly declares the readiness to draw Japan to work in the use of near-earth and outer space in military purposes. Used for the purpose is repeatedly tested tactics of "creeping infiltration" which is used by the government for a steady rise in Japan's military budget, for the build up of military might, in attempts of some forces to renunciate the "three non-nuclear principles". Referring to "the needs of defence" and "obligations" to the United States, the Tokyo leaders steadily seek to accustom the public of the country and the whole world to the thought that Tokyo's military machine at the present-day stage should meet the requirements of the nuclear and space age.

It is exactly in this light that one should consider creation in Japan of advanced military technology, the Japanese Government's readiness to hand over part of the components of that technology to the Pentagon for militarisation of near-earth space, and also the use, seemingly modest, of "Sakura-2" communication satellites by the Japan Defence Agency that began last week. The press of Japan overtly points out that the Japan Defence Agency intends to "spread defence" to sea lanes of 1,000 nautical miles from the Japanese coast. As we see, electronic-space components are introduced into that "defence".

The crawling of Japan into the space arms race does not bid anything good above all to Japan itself. As is shown by the experience of all post-war years, the build up of armaments in the globe does not make peace and security of peoples stronger. Japan has grievous experience of having been victim of American atomic bombings. Some people in Japan seemingly would like to cross out that experience.

INDIAN MINISTRY CONDEMNS USSR DIPLOMAT'S MURDER

LD221119 Moscow TASS in English 1108 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] New Delhi March 22 TASS -- An attempt on the life of V.Ya. Khitrichenko, of the staff of the economic counsellor at the USSR Embassy in India, was made on March 21. The car, in which he rode with his wife in the area of the diplomatic district of Chanakyapuri, was shot at by unidentified persons. V.Ya. Khitrichenko was gravely wounded and died on the way to a hospital. The murderers managed to escape.

An official spokesman for the Indian Foreign Ministry made a statement, saying: We resolutely condemn the shocking crime against the representative of the country with which we maintain most friendly relations. We express most profound sympathy and condolences to the bereaved family and to the embassy.

The statement points out that all efforts will be made to track down those guilty of the crime. It stresses that India's police authorities attach prime importance to ensuring the safety of Soviet employees in this country.

PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD IN KABUL

PM211115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Work Ends"]

[Text] Kabul, 20 Mar -- The 15th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee has finished work here. A report "On Strengthening the Party's Work Among the Masses and Increasing Their Activeness in the Defense of the Motherland and the Revolution" was delivered by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council. Taking part in the plenum were leaders of PDPA Central Committee sections, Central Committee and Revlutionary Council zone representatives, secretaries of provincial party committees and governors.

The plenum approved the results of B. Karmal's recent meeting in Moscow with M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

TASS REPORTS DRA'S KARMAL'S NEW YEAR ADDRESS

LD211414 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul March 21 TASS -- Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, addressed the people of Afghanistan on the occasion of Afghan new year celebrations. The outgoing year, he said in his statement, witnessed a planned and steady economic and social growth in the republic despite subversion by the counter-revolution and the economic banditism of its class enemies -- imperialism and reaction. During the past year, the Afghan leader stressed, the country's gross national product and national income increased respectively by 6.7 and 5 per cent.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the revolutionary government are confident that the incoming year will see the defeat of the counter-revolution and bring a victory to the peace forces, peace and tranquility to the country.

The tranquility and happiness of our people, Babrak Karmal went on, depend on the complete elimination of the armed counter-revolution and cessation of the undeclared war which is being waged against the DPA by international imperialism and reaction.

The U.S.-led forces of imperialism and reaction, using the anti-people regime in Pakistan and reaction in Iran, continue sowing death and destruction on Afghan soil and staging acts of aggression against the republic. The Reagan administration spends today hundreds of millions of dollars on supporting the Afghan counter-revolution. Gangs of counter-revolutionaries, smuggled into the territory of Afghanistan from Iran and Pakistan, are supplied with American and Chinese modern arms.

Enormous funds are being spent on propaganda in order to mislead world public opinion concerning the real state of affairs in the DRA. Therefore the party and government consider it their primary and most important task now to rout completely and finally the counter-revolution inside the country. All machinations of the forces wishing to turn back the march of time in Afghanistan are doomed to failure, Babrak Karmal said.

He stressed that Afghanistan is firmly committed to its policy of ensuring peace inside the country and defending peace in the world, its policy of disarmament and of stopping the arms race, its policy of friendship between the peoples of all countries. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan fully supports the peaceable foreign policy of the socialist countries with the Soviet Union at the head.

U.S. 'INTERFERENCE' PROTESTED IN AFGHAN CITIES

LD211926 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul March 21 TASS -- Mass protest demonstrations against American interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan took place in the biggest cities of Afghanistan. Hundreds of thousands of workers, peasants and intellectuals went into the streets in Kabul, Qandahar, Mazar-e Sharif, Konduz and other cities on Wednesday in order to express their anger and indignation at Washington's policy of aggression and interference against their country.

We demand an immediate end to the undeclared war that is being waged by reaction and imperialism against the Afghan people, said the demonstrators in Mazar-e Sharif in their resolution adopted at a meeting.

Speakers at the meeting noted the fruitful character of relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Afghanistan and expressed gratitude to the Soviet people for their selfless assistance to Afghanistan in developing its national economy and repelling imperialist aggression.

AFGHAN REBELS' 'CRIMES,' TRAINING REPORTED

PM220803 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent G. Ustinov dispatch under the rubric "Behind the Scenes of Subversive Activities": "The Killers and Their Patrons"]

[Text] Kabul -- My interlocutor, (Nasir Akmad), is 24 years old. He studied at the Kabul Lyceum. All roads were open to him. He chose the crooked and dark path leading to the illegal "Islamic Party of Afghanistan" (IPA) organization, whose headquarters are located in the Pakistani city of Peshawar.

All 30 members of this organization were armed with submachine guns, pistols, and grenades. They terrorized Kabul schoolchildren, students, teachers, and civil servants. As a sideline, they recruited new members for the IPA and disseminated subversive leaflets and literature. After 1 year in the gang, (Akhmad) was officially sent by (Faruk), his gang leader, to ("Chor") the special training camp for Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan. He spent 3 and 1/2 months there. According to him, there were 150 trainees in the camp. They weren't paid badly -- around $300 per month. They were trained by foreign instructors including four Americans. (Akhmad's) group was trained by an American instructor whom they called Dino -- a tall, fair-haired man with blue eyes. Like his compatriots, he spoke Dari, but he did not masquerade in Eastern dress and wore ordinary modern clothes.

"What did they teach you?" I ask (Akhmad). (Today he is not wearing the national dress either, but is sitting in front of me in a striped outfit resembling pajamas. That is all you get in solitary confinement pending trial.) "We learned to fire a pistol, a submachine gun, and a mortar and were taught antitank combat methods and to shoot at airborne targets. There were also special subjects; for instance, how to capture certain useful people and "extract the information required from them." Here Dino was constantly reminding us: Don't be soft. If the prisoner refuses to talk, pour kerosene over him and strike a match.

It so happened that on the same day, 17 March, I was able to meet another person trained by the U.S. special services. A CIA agent, (Fakhruddin Gausi), detained by DRA security organs, was presented to those attending a press conference for Afghan and foreign journalists in Kabul. This was a much more experienced and inveterate enemy than my interlocutor that morning. He was over 50 years old. He served for 16 years in the bodyguard of the last Afghan king, Zahir Shah, and was his aide-de-camp. And when Daoud toppled the king in 1973, (Gausi) joined the smugglers. Here he was sought out and recruited by the U.S. special services to work on their staff. In secret CIA laboratories in the vicinity of the Afghan border, (Gausi) was taught "silent" methods of mass murder.

"I was primarily briefed on new toxins produced in the United States," he told those attending the press conference in a monotonous voice, for instance, "pills" that could be slipped unnoticed into water bowls outside mosques." As is known, Muslim religious rites involve washing the hands and face. The poison dissolved in the water is highly toxic: it causes the eyes to water and the skin to itch unbearably, and subsequently the skin comes off in the affected areas. Other "pills" were intended for drinking water tanks in schools and public institutions. The chemists from the CIA taught (Gausi) to use liquid poisons and special syringes. In the crush of the bazaar, it was sufficient to touch a piece of mutton or an orange with such a syringe and the poison took effect. For public places such as cinemas and baths, there were tiny pulverization pistols filled with highly toxic substances capable of burning any living tissue.

Recently, the inspirers and organizers of the undeclared war against Afghanistan started another propaganda ballyhoo on the subject of so-called violations of human rights in the DRA in an effort to create the desired impression about the situation in and around Afghanistan. A special bicameral "Afghanistan group," for instance, has been set up in the U.S. Congress with this end in mind, chaired by Senator Humphrey and including 15 senators and members of the House of Representatives. It has held a number of hearings on the "Afghan problem."

Hardened cutthroats from among the Afghan counterrevolutionaries who sow death directly on the Republic's territory were invited to take part. One of them, a certain (Abdul Khak), who is active in the vicinity of Kabul, demanded in his speech at the hearings that the U.S. patrons send more money and more modern weapons, especially antiaircraft weapons, and that they step up their political and propaganda support for the mujahidin.

Donning the garb of champions of the Afghan people, the enemies of the young republic used the rostrum of the 41st session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, which ended in Geneva recently, for their attacks on the DRA. Resorting to methods of pressure and blackmail, U.S. representatives were able, with the assistance of obedient and dependent regimes, to foist on this important UN body a resolution that suited their purposes, a resolution full of malicious attacks on the DRA and the USSR.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, the U.S. Congress has almost tripled the appropriations originally requested by the Reagan administration as "aid" for Afghan counterrevolutionaries to a total of $250 million in the current fiscal year. The paper stresses that this is more than 80 percent of the CIA's total annual spending on secret operations. At the same time, the United States is exerting strong pressure on its allies, demanding that they make more sizable contributions to the funding of the undeclared war against the DRA. Whereas in 1984 capitalist states' "aid" to the Afghan counterrevolution exceeded $700 million, this year they have already promised $1.2 billion. Where do these astronomical sums of money go? Above all to provide modern weapons for the dushman gangs. The United States alone supplies guns, portable antiaircraft missile installations, 82-mm recoilless guns, 112-mm howitzers, antipersonnel mines, and other means for the mass destruction of people. Part of the money -- and a quite substantial part -- goes toward the combat training of the mujahidin in special training centers set up near the border with Afghanistan. According to BAKHTAR, the Afghan news agency, there were more than 120 camps and training centers for saboteurs and terrorists on Pakistani territory at the beginning of the current year. The training is provided by experienced foreign instructors, including 318 U.S. advisers and experts. Finally, vast sums are spent on maintaining the dushman gangs, on payments for their bloody "work." Those who live in Afghanistan and are direct witnesses of the events taking place here know well now "conscientiously" these mercenaries are earning their dirty money. Here is a list of just some of the inhuman crimes that have been perpetrated this year against the republic and its peaceful inhabitants:

Ghazni Province, 19 January. A group of bandits killed the mother of provincial education department chief (Abdurrakhman) and abducted him and his brother.

Kabul, 19 January. Just before midnight two armed dushmans burst into the house of (Sultan Khuseyn), member of a detachment of defenders of the revolution, and killed his wife and wounded his daughter.

Samangan Province, 1 February. A gang shelled a village in Aybak district and blew up a gas pipeline.

Kabul Province, Qarah Bagh district, 12 February. Bandits burned a "first aid" van.

Herat Province, 23 February. Bandits organized an explosion at the (Nadzhib) Hotel. Three people were injured.

Herat Province, 2 March. Bandits subjected the (Nasadzhi) factory to mortar fire.

Balkh Province, 13 March. An automobile was blown up by a mine laid by dushmans on the Shulgareh-Balkh highway. A woman and a 2-year-old child were injured.

...While clamoring about the "violated rights" of the Afghan people, the U.S. patrons are secretly orienting the counterrevolutionaries toward brutal terror against the DRA's peaceful citizens. No propaganda shows of the Afghanistan "days" and "weeks" type can conceal the truth about the counterrevolution's acts of brigandage and about the active and constantly increasing U.S. interference in the DRA's affairs.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE SENDS GREETINGS TO LPRP

PM220955 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee.

Dear comrades!

On behalf of the Communists and all Soviet people we send to you and, through you, to all the party members and working people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic our warm congratulations and best wishes on the 30th anniversary of the LPRP's founding.

Under the LPRP's leadership, a national democratic revolution was accomplished in Laos in 1975 and the country embarked on the building of a socialist society, bypassing the capitalist stage of development.

In the years since the victory of the revolution, the party's guiding and organizing role has grown, the organs of people's power in the country have strengthened, and the creative tasks set by the Third LPRP Congress are being successfully implemented. The new system was tempered in the struggle against the intrigues of the forces of imperialism and hegemonism.

Guided by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the LPRP makes a worthy contribution to the strengthening of the international communist movement and the common cause of rallying the socialist community and developing cooperation among the fraternal parties and countries. Laos wages a struggle against the threat of a new world war and in favor of a lessening of international tension. It consistently pursues a course of strengthening the fraternal friendship with the peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia, and together with them it advocates the transformation of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, and good-neighborliness.

The Communists and all Soviet people feel deep respect and sympathy toward the glorious LPRP and the Lao people. The fraternal ties between the CPSU and the LPRP constitute a firm foundation for the all-around cooperation between our countries and peoples.

We are confident that under the leadership of the LPRP and its Central Committee headed by General Secretary Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, the Lao people will achieve new successes in building the material and technical base of a socialist society and in the struggle for the cause of peace and socialism.

Long live the LPRP!

Long live the fraternal unity of the CPSU and the LPRP and the indissoluble Soviet-Lao friendship!

Long live Marxism-Leninism!

The CPSU Central Committee

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. 'PRESSURE' ON NEW ZEALAND

LD212235 Moscow World Service in English 0710 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Igor Bestuzhev commentary]

[Text] That the recent session of the ANZUS Council that was to be held in Canberra in July was canceled is another proof of a deep crisis in the military alliance of the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. Igor Bestuzhev makes these comments:

When the Labor government came to power in New Zealand last July and banned the port calls of American nuclear ships news analysts in different countries arrived at the same conclusion -- the crisis of the past few years inside ANZUS had entered a new stage. Nevertheless, no one thought then that the step would paralyze the bloc completely. According to the Australian prime minister, Robert Hawke, only the title is left of the alliance.

Washington was sure that pressure on the Government of New Zealand would immediately produce desirable results and the old state of affairs would be restored. But this did not happen, even though pressure on Wellington increased in geometrical progression. All possible ways of twisting arms were used, ranging from persuasion to economic blackmail. All planned maneuvers of the United States and New Zealand were canceled. This was done with the apparent purpose of showing to New Zealanders that if there appeared a military threat to the country they should not count on American assistance. Nevertheless, New Zealand refused to capitulate. Prime Minister David Lange has stressed many times that the country's stand remains unchanged.

What is the reason for the situation that somewhat reminds the biblical duel between David and Goliath? Answering this question, many American news analysts try to reduce the matter to the personality of Lange. He is often described as a stubborn man who does not want to give up the wrong decision, contrary to common sense and national interest. But it is difficult to agree with such an explanation. When David Lange banned the port calls of American ships he acted in full accord with the political platform of his party. In the past parliamentary elections, the overwhelming majority of voters backed this platform. New Zealanders have spoken in favor of the decision many times after the elections, both during public opinion polls and demonstrations in support of the policies of the Labor government.

It is notable that not only New Zealanders of anti-American political convictions firmly support Lange. The supporters also include those who stand for strengthening military ties with the United States. However, they don't want to be American nuclear hostages. All of them realize that when American vessels enter the ports of New Zealand they bring mass annihilation weapons. This makes their country a target for a retaliatory strike in case Washington starts a global conflict.

Washington is increasingly irritated with the independent stand of New Zealand. It fears that other American allies might follow the example of New Zealand.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CSSR DEFENSE MINISTER'S VISIT

Comparison of Arrival in Moscow

LD201451 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 20 March broadcasts a report on CSSR Defense Minister Milan Vaclavik's arrival in Moscow which has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published on page F 1 of the 20 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and is identical except for the following:

Paragraph one, line four...at the airport by Comrade Sokolov; Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, first USSR deputy minister of defense; Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, first USSR deputy minister of defense, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states; Army General Yepishev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and the Naval Fleet; and other officials. (adding details of reception party)

Prague, Budapest Video Reports

AU210844 [Editorial Report] Prague Television Service in Czech at 1830 GMT on 20 March, and Budapest Television Service in Hungarian at 1830 GMT on 20 March, as part of their regular evening newscasts, carry video reports of 30 and 35 seconds respectively on USSR Defense Minister, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov receiving CSSR National Defense Minister Lt Gen Milan Vaclavik in Moscow on 20 March.

The Hungarian television report starts with shots of Vaclavik descending from the plane and being met by Sokolov. The two ministers shake hands and embrace. These shots are good, middle distance shots of Sokolov meeting his counterpart. Sokolov is seen moving and is unaided.

Next shots are identical in both the Prague television and in the Budapest television video reports. The camera pans groups of officers and civilians seated along both sides of a table. Then, the camera focuses on Vaclavik and then on other CSSR generals and civilians. All of the facial close-ups are of the CSSR side of the table. The faces of those persons seated at the other, presumably Soviet side of the table are not shown, the camera panning only their backs.

Unlike the Prague television video report, the Budapest television report mentions other Soviet participants in the talks, namely: Marshal Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, and deputy defense minister; and Marshal Kulikov, commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact.

Vaclavik at Lenin's Tomb

LD211409 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Colonel-General Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, who is in our country on an official friendly visit, today laid a wreath at the mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich Lenin. He paid his respects with a minute's silence to the memory of the founder of the world's first socialist state.

The Czechoslovak minister of national defense also laid a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Kremlin Wall. He paid tribute to the memory of Soviet servicemen who gave their lives in the struggle against Hitlerite fascism.

Received by Sokolov, Kulikov

LD211815 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] The official friendly visit to the USSR by Colonel-General Vaclavik, Czechoslovak minister of national defense, is continuing. Today he was received by Comrade Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Taking part in the conversation, which passed in a warm and cordial atmosphere, were Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, USSR defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, first deputy minister of defense and commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states; and Zavadil, ambassador of the CSSR in the Soviet Union.

More on Sokolov Talks

PM211420 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Official Friendly Visit"]

[Excerpts] Colonel-General M. Vaclavik, CRRS minister of national defense, arrived in the Soviet Union 20 March at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR defense minister.

The same day a meeting was held between Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR defense minister, and Colonel-General M. Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense. Questions of mutual interest were discussed during a warm and friendly talk.

Taking part in the talk on the Soviet side were: Marshals of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev and V.G. Kulikov, Army Generals A.A. Yepishev, Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, and V.M. Shabanov, Admiral Yu.P. Grishin, and other officials; and on the Czechoslovak side: Lieutenant Generals J. Klicha, V. Smakal, M. Zika, and M. Pavlicek, and M. Zavadil, CRRS ambassador to the USSR.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov gave a dinner in Colonel-General M. Vaclavik's honor. An exchange of friendly toasts was held at the dinner.

TIKHONOV, BULGARIA's FILIPOV EXCHANGE SPEECHES

PM211319 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report on 19 March Kremlin luncheon for G. Filipov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, under the general heading: "Soviet-Bulgarian Meeting"]

[Text] On 19 March, the Soviet Government gave a luncheon in the Kremlin in honor of the important Bulgarian guest.

G. Filipov was joined at the luncheon by the officials accompanying him on his trip.

Present from the Soviet side were N.A. Tikhonov, N.K. Baybakov, Z.N. Nuriyev, N.V. Talyzin, and other officials.

N.A. Tikhonov made a speech at the luncheon. He said:

Allow me first of all, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet Government, to cordially welcome you, Comrade Filipov, and all the representatives of fraternal Bulgaria present here today. We can note with satisfaction that Soviet-Bulgarian relations are developing on an ascending line, and millions of Soviet and Bulgarian working people as well as party and state bodies and economic and public organizations are becoming more and more actively and directly involved in this important process.

During the talks, we primarily focused on questions of further deepening Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation. It is developing intensively and fruitfully, completely in line with the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. The guarantee of this is the proven alliance between our fraternal parties and their political and ideological unity based in the indestructible principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

Our main aim is peaceful building and the further improvement of our peoples' living standards. Therefore, in international affiars, too, the socialist countries' efforts are aimed at averting the threat of war and safeguarding each people's natural right to a peaceful life so as to decide for themselves their path of development. At the CPSU Central Committee March Plenum, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev said that "in the foreign policy sphere, our course is clear and consistent. It is a course of peace and progress."

The plenum confirmed with renewed force the determination of our party and state of comprehensively strengthen fraternal friendship and cooperation with the socialist community countries -- our very close comrades-in-arms and allies. It is our general course and we will never depart from it.

We want to assure our Bulgarian comrades that we will continue to work for the prosperity of Soviet-Bulgarian friendship, in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria and of the socialist community as a whole.

N.A. Tikhonov proposed a toast to the BCP Central Committee headed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov, to the Bulgarian Government and Comrade Grisha Filipov, to the fraternal Bulgarian people, and to indestructible Soviet-Bulgarian friendship.

G. Filipov replied.

Our trip to the great Soviet land, he said, is connected with the discussion of questions of the further development and deepening of cooperation between our countries. We are implementing a joint course of rapproachment between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union and between their parties and peoples. The leaders of our parties and states were the initiators of this course. Life has fully confirmed its correctness.

Today, as N.A. Tikhonov has very rightly said, millions of Soviet and Bulgarian working people are directly involved in this process. This is the strength of our friendship, which has developed into genuine fraternity.

The questions we are discussing today are also connected with general plans for the future. Again there has been a demonstration of our complete unity of views and common desire to make our cooperation even more multifaceted and effective. We see our efforts in this direction as a contribution not only to bilateral Bulgarian-Soviet relations, but also to the implementation of the big, multifaceted accords that were reached in Moscow during the CEMA countries' economic summit conference. These actions are aimed at further deepening socialist economic integration that meets the common interests and serves to strengthen the economic might of our countries and of the entire socialist community.

As has already been noted here, we are having to solve these questions in a complex international situation. This requires of us even greater cohesion and even closer collaboration to ensure that our course of strengthening peace and security is consistently implemented and influences the improvement of the international situation.

Everyone knows that a frantic, hostile campaign of slander has been launched against Bulgaria that is ultimately directed against the whole socialist community. These enemy intrigues do not scare us, becuase we are members of the great family of fraternal socialist states. We will respond to any hostile sallies against socialism by strengthening our unity and cohesion even more.

We greeted with great satisfaction the USSR-U.S. accord on holding talks in Geneva. Although these talks are bound to be very difficult, we are confident that our common cause is correct and we do not doubt that it will prevail.

Our party and people have a high opinion of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the Extraordinary March CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in it. Comrade M.S. Gorbahcev is known in Bulgaria for his revolutionary, innovative spirit and his desire to comprehensively strengthen the Soviet Union and friendship and fraternity with Bulgaria and to contribute to further consolidating the socialist community.

G. Filipov proposed a toast to the indestructible friendship between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples, to the two countries' Communist Parties and their Central Committees, and to Comrades M.S. Gorbachev, T. Zhivkov, and N.A. Tikhonov.

The speeches by Comrades N.A. Tikhonov and G. Filipov were listened to closely and applauded.

The luncheon took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

PETUKHOV COMMENTS ON ROMANIAN ELECTION RESULTS

PM211145 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Stanislav Petukhov "Commentator's Column": "The People's Deputies"]

[Text] Bucharest -- Last Sunday the new Grand National Assembly was elected in Romania. At the same time, deputies to the people's councils of countries, municipalities, cities, and communes were elected for the next 5-year term. The concluding report of the Central Electoral Commission notes that more than 15.5 million citizens of the republic exercised the constitutional right to directly participate in the formation of the organs of socialist people's power -- that is, 99.99 percent voted for the candidates whose names appeared on the ballot.

Candidate deputies of the Grand National Assembly and the councils at all levels were nominated by the Front of Socialist Democracy and Unity, which unites in its ranks, under the RCP's leadership, dozens of public, professional, and cooperative organizations and scientific and cultural societies in the country. In the election campaign, as a united bloc of Communists and nonparty people, it put forward a platform based on the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress held in late 1984. At election meetings there was wide discussion of the party's plans for the country's further progress along the socialist path. Questions of the improvement of economic management, the economy's intensification, the development of the masses' initiative and political activeness, and the strengthening of discipline and order were central.

The new Grand National Assembly has 369 deputies representing all the country's counties and municipalities. Among those elected are party and state figures, leading workers and cooperative members, representatives of the scientific and technical intelligentsia, and workers in culture and education. The voters unanimously supported the creative plans for the next 5-year plan period which provide for the all-around strengthening of the material and technical base for building a new society and, on this basis, the steady improvement of the people's well-being and the development of socialist democracy.

Romania's working people resolutely supported the line of peace and international security, the further development of collaboration with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal states, and the strengthening of the solidarity and unity of socialist countries.

SLOVENE, BELORUSSIAN TALKS BEGIN IN MINSK

LD220048 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] As we have already reported, a delegation of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia, led by Dusan Sinigoj, president of the Slovene Executive Council, is visiting our country at the invitation of the Council of Ministers of the Belorussian SSR. Yesterday, the delegation of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia arrived in Minsk, the Belorussian capital, where talks were held between the delegations of the Belorussian SSR led by Comrade Bravikov and of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia led by Dusan Sinigoj. In the talks, issues of further promoting friendly ties between Belorussia and Slovenia in various shperes within the framework of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation were discussed. The talks took place in a cordial and comradely atmosphere. Today, the delegation of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia was received by Nikolay Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, and by Ivan Polyakov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Belorussia.

GDR, USSR SCIENCE ACADEMIES SIGN COOPERATION PLAN

LD202344 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1541 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 20 Mar (ADN) -- The plan of cooperation between the Academies of Sciences of the GDR and the USSR for 1986-90 was signed in Moscow today by the presidents of the two academies, Prof Dr Werner Scheler and Prof Dr Anatoliy Aleksandrov. The main emphasis of the cooperation is on micro- and opto-electronics, computer technology and information technology, chemical synthesis, biological and space sciences.

Prof Anatoliy Aleksandrov stressed that, together with the expansion of cooperation in already traditional spheres, such as cosmic equipment construction and computer technology, comprehensive cooperation in basic research had been agreed upon for the first time.

The document is an important step toward the realization of the long-term program for development of cooperation agreed in October 1984, and serves the goal of further economic integration of the two countries, Prof Scheler said.

BELGIAN ANTIMISSILE STRUGGLE TO CONTINUE

PM211135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Drobkov dispatch: "Belgium: The Struggle Is Not Over"]

[Text] Brussels, 20 Mar -- There was a sharp debate in the Belgian Parliament for just over 2 days. The government's statement on the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles on Belgian soil was under discussion. Parliamentarians here were informed of the arrival of 16 cruise missiles in Belgium only at the very last moment. National Defense Minister E. Vreven tried to justify this haste by consdierations of "ensuring security." However, both Parliament and the entire country understood very well that they were very simply being presented with a fait accompli. If we remember that according to the latest opinion polls, only 20 percent or less of Belgians support the deployment of new U.S. missiles there, it becomes clear that the action was taken against the will of the overwhelming majority of the country's population.

It is no accident, therefore, that Belgium's progressive forces viewed the government decision not just as a blow to the country's security and complicity in the dangerous nuclear race in Europe urged on by NATO, but also as a flouting of democratic principles. As Karel van Miert, president of the Socialist Party (Flemish), stressed, the government dealt a "slap in the face" to Parliament. The Belgian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo sharply criticized the government's actions in a special statement.

During Sunday's demonstration in Brussels, which brought together 150,000 people from all over Belgium, one of the main slogans was the call: "No to missiles, yes to democracy!" Thus, Belgians demanded with new force that the government and Parliament take account of their unequivocally expressed will for disarmament, peace, and genuine security in Europe. With the beginning of deployment of the first cruise missiles at Forennes, Pierre (Galan), president of the National Peace and Development Action Committee, told the demonstrators the struggle of Belgium's peace-loving forces has not ended. It is only just beginning and will continue until it results in the dismantling of the missiles that have been brought here and the elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe.

The success of Sunday's demonstration, which exceeded even its organizers' expectations, had an unquestionable impact on the debate in Parliament. Pointing to this new and resolute demand of the country's population, many deputies demanded a vote of no confidence against the government.

The arguments in the national Parliament dragged on until late. It was only late into the night of the 19-20 March that a separate vote was taken on the economic and missile sections of the government statement. Relying on its existing majority, the government secured a vote of confidence. It has the support of 116 deputies on the missile question. Ninety-three members of the Chamber of Representatives, including one from the ruling Christian People's Party, voted against. One deputy abstained.

It is being noted here that the decision that has been forced through Parliament to start deployment has not, however, put a definitive end to the missle problem. As many opposition deputies stated, if they come to power after the upcoming parliamentary elections in December, the missile question will be reviewed. The Flemish Socialists, for example, as Louis (Tobbak), chairman of their parliamentary faction, bluntly stated, will seek to create a coalition government that will advocate the withdrawal from Belgian territory of the missiles already deployed there.

According to the leader of the parliamentary group of the Socialist Party (French-speaking), Alain van der Biest, this is the aim that all Socialists will set themselves. Many other deputies also declared their intention to push for nuclear disarmament in Europe and for a constructive contribution by Belgium to this cause.

The mass antiwar movements and organizations do not intend to lose heart either. In various parts of Belgium, public antiwar actions are continuing and protest hunger strikes have been declared.

The missiles brought into the air base at Florennes against the Belgians' will have not halted the desire of that country's people for genuine security and peace and for the development of good-neighborly relations with other countries. They have exposed yet again the real value of NATO's assurances of "peaceableness and a desire to curb arms." By forcing Belgium to receive cruise missiles, Washington and NATO have again demonstrated their line of flouting the aspirations of Europe's peoples in favor of their own militarist interests and have shown their cynical disregard for the very democracy which the North Atlantic bloc verbally swears to "defend."

BORIN COMMENTS ON NATO'S WINTEX-CIMEX EXERCISES

LD212254 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Nikolay Borin comments on the recent Wintex-Cimex exercises conducted by NATO.

Unlike most NATO exercises, these didn't involve troops practicing military actions. These were staff exercises, which could even be called computer games. For Britain, computers played up the version of tragic destruction as the result of a nuclear conflict. According to them, by the end of the day, most of the population in the United Kingdom perishes and the survivors are doomed. After that the computers set out to count the number of casualties and material damage. However, these games didn't end in simple calculation processes.

NATO's scheme of exercises took into account the fact that the possible consequences of a nuclear conflict are known not only to military headquarters. Therefore an integral, though secret, part of the exercises was resolute measures aimed at isolating antiwar and other organizations in the event of the possible crisis. Obviously the sponsors of the games failed to see sinister irony in the fact that while playing up a scenario for Britain's destruction, they also envisaged arm-twisting measures against those who wanted to prevent it. However, NATO's generals were not in a joking mood. The leader of the bloc, the United States, is seriously concerned about the fresh actions launched by the antimissiles movement in Western Europe.

As for Britain, its secret services, not without involvement of their American counterparts, have placed -- regardless of peacetime -- participants in the movement for banning nuclear weapons under effective surveillance. The tapping of telephones, inspection of correspondence, secret searches, surveillance with the help of electronic devices, all this is included in the gentlemen's kit used by such organizations as MI-5 and by even more secret police services. The large-scale operation aimed at neutralizing these campaigners conducted in Molesworth recently has shown that the British Government is prepared to revise the issue of human rights in the country in favor of American and NATO interests.

Barbed wire, police cordons, martial law measures, all this is designed to ensure the unhindered launch of American first-strike missiles from British soil. The Americans can be satisfied-- all must be in order on their unsinkable missile carrier, and to ensure this any steps can be used.

Such are American morals, but it is hard to understand what kind of principles those who follow them have. Certainly their actions are to the detriment of their country's national interests.

EEC MEMBERSHIP TO CREATE PROBLEMS FOR SPAIN

OW211425 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1150 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From "The World Today" program, presented by political observer Igor Kudrin]

[Text] A session of the Council of Ministers of EEC member states has ended in Brussels. One of the central issues on the agenda of the foreign ministers session was enlargement of the Common Market with two new members -- the two countries of the Iberian Peninsula. Spain and Portugal are continuing their efforts to get into the Common Market. The longer the bargaining with the Ten, the more persistent this effort and the more difficult the conditions which their future partners -- at the same time, their future competitors -- try to foist on them, the more positions Spain and Portugal must give up to please the EEC states.

To join the Common Market by 1 January 1986 at any cost, that is how the Spanish press assesses this feverish haste. What will the price of joining the Common Market be for Spain, for example, asks the influential Madrid magazine CAMBIO 16? It will mean an even greater crisis. As a result of sharp competition, such leading branches of industry as metallurgy and the chemical, textile, and automobile industries will suffer. It will also mean hard times for the producers of meat, milk, and butter. Hundreds of medium and small enterprises will inevitably fold, and thousands of peasants' farms in Cantabra, Galicia, and Asturias will inevitably go bankrupt.

Even the national banks will have a hard time as brutal and sharp Western European competitors will immediately flood into Spain, attracted by the profitable conditions. What else will happen? Prices of foodstuffs and consumer goods will go up and inflation will increase. As a matter of fact, this would be sufficient in itself. At the moment, the question of increasing the ranks of the Ten with the two new members remains open.

GROMYKO, NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR DISCUSS TIES

LD211901 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, today received the ambassador of the Netherlands to the USSR, F. van Agt, at his request. The sides exchanged opinions on Soviet-Dutch relations, confirming their mutual interest in their further extension in different fields, including political contacts. They also touched upon some international problems in the context of the need to strengthen European security and to lower the level of armed confrontation on the continent.

ZAGLADIN MEETS WITH PCF'S GREMETZ FOR TALKS

LD211136 Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Paris March 21 TASS -- Maxime Gremetz, a member of the Politbureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, and Vadim Zagladin, a member of the Central Committee of the CPSU, had working consultations here on international issues on mutual interests.

Both sides expressed the desire to continue fraternal contacts between the CPSU and PCF in the interests of promoting friendship between the peoples of the USSR and France.

MEDICAL RESEARCH PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH ITALY

LD221043 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 22 TASS -- The Soviet Union and Italy intend to expand cooperation in medical research. Programs of joint work in the field of cardio-vascular diseases, oncology, pharmacology and biochemistry will be supplemented with joint studies into other major problems of medical science. These are: physiotherapy, treatment at health resorts, orthopedics, virusology, and neurophysiology. It is also planned to exchange experience in organising public health services. All these subjects have been included into the plan of cooperation of the two countries in 1985-1986. This arrangement was made in keeping with the terms of the protocol of the 4th session of the mixed Soviet-Italian working group on medicine and public health. The session drew to a close in Moscow Thursday. The document was signed by health minister of the two countries Sergey Burenkov and Constante Degan.

The session made note of the efficiency of the forms of cooperation determined earlier, such as exchange of information, mutual visits by groups of specialists, and joint research projects. The two countries will carry on such contacts. For example, this year several Soviet-Italian symposiums will be held.

Constante Degan spoke with appreciation of the meetings he had in Moscow. It is gratifying, he said, to sign a document which calls for scaled-up contacts in medicine and public health. We visited several research centers and clinics in the Soviet capital and saw many things of use and interest to us. I believe that the work carried out by Italian researchers will also attract the attention of our partners, he said. Cooperation can speed up resolution of a series of major problems of medical science, Sergey Burenkov said. Its development will undoubtedly promote the cause of peace.

GREEK NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS EMPHASIZE TIES

LD221133 Moscow TASS in English 1926 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- "The relations between the Soviet Union and Greece develop progressively, serve their mutual interests, the cause of peace and international security. These relations are a convincing example of fruitful cooperation between states and different socio-economic systems," said Nikolay Kozlov, president of the USSR-Greece Society. He made a speech at a celebration meeting devoted to the National Day of the Republic of Greece -- the independence day, which was held in Moscow today.

The USSR-Greece Friendship Society is engaged in extensive activities to acquaint the peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece with the life of the two countries, said in his speech member of the board of the society Grigoriy Arsh. The society holds internationalist friendship meetings, meetings with Greek tourists, exhibitions, previews of Greek films, lectures on history and culture of that country. Grigoriy Arsh noted that the relations of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Greece rest upon good historical traditions. In the years of the Second World War our peoples fought against the common enemy, he said. In the USSR they appreciate the Greek patriots' struggle against Hitlerite fascism, he stressed.

Speaking at the meeting, Greece's ambassador to the USSR Ioannis Grigoriadis noted the exclusive contribution of Soviet servicemen to the rout of fascist Germany.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS GREETINGS TO ARAB LEAGUE

LD212031 Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 21 TASS -- "On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of he foundation of the League of Arab States the USSR Council of Ministers greets the Arab countries and peoples, wishes them success in the struggle against the continuing Israeli aggression and imperialist diktat, for freedom and national independence", runs a message of greetings from the USSR Council of Ministers to General Secretary of the League of Arab States Chedli Klibi.

"The Soviet Union has invariably sided and continues to side with the Arabs' rightful course, it firmly denounces any attempts to drive a wedge into their ranks, to draw them by force or deception into separate, capitulatory deals with the aggressor, to make them waive their vital interests.

"Our country will continue supporting the struggle of the participants in the League of Arab States for peaceful life and free development, deepening cooperation with them in the sphere of attaining a comprehensive and fair settlement in the Middle East".

FOUR-NATION CONFERENCE CONCLUDES IN DAMASCUS

LD220040 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus March 21 TASS -- A quadripartite conference of representatives of Algeria, Libya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Syria has come to an end here. It was attended from the Algerian side by the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front Party, head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee of the party Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, from the Libyan side -- by the member of the revolutionary leadership of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah 'Abd al-Salim Ahmad Jallud, from the side of Democratic Yemen -- by the member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, secretary of the Central Committee of the Party Anis Yahya, from the Syrian side -- by the member of the regional leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, Vice-President of Syria 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and other officials from those countries.

According to theSANA news agency, participants in the conference analyzed in detail the situation in the Middle East in the light of the latest developments and worked out joint measures aimed at countering dangerous plans of imperialism, Zionism and their accomplices in the region. Agreement was reached on convening in the near future a meeting of the heads of states represented at the conference.

ISRAEL'S RABIN CITED ON PLANS TO ANNEX ARAB LAND

LD212237 Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo March 21 TASS -- Tel Aviv is carrying the matters [as received] to complete annexation of occupied Arab lands. This was confirmed by Israeli Defense Minister Rabin who is now touring the territory of the occupied Gaza sector. In an interview to Israel radio he said that that area is "an inalienable part of the State of Israel."

The head of the Israeli military department called for the speeding up of the colonization of the Gaza sector by Tel Aviv, declaring that the Cabinet "will always be giving priority to the development of a network of Israeli military settlements in the region which is adjoining the border and is close to the confrontation line."

As is known, the Gaza sector is situated on a border with Egypt with which Israel is linked by the Camp David "peace" accords.

Rabin's statements are borne up by Tel Aviv's concrete deeds. The Israeli Government recently worked out a long-term plan of the "development" of the Gaza sector. In addition to the existing 32 settlements in the area, it envisages the setting up of 50 more outposts of aggression before 1990. According to the design of the Zionists, the implementation of the plan must become the decisive step toward the final annexation of that Arab region.

CULTURAL SOCIETY OFFICIAL ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN

NC211010 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] The Soviet people extend their sincere wishes to the Iranian people on Now Ruz [Iranian New Year], of spring and of nature's rebirth. All members of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran also extend their heartfelt wishes to their southern neighbor.

In an interview with our correspondent Gennadiy Abdeyev, secretary in charge of the society, stressed thatpeace is the Soviet people's greatest wich; thus we sincerely hope that the new year will be a year of peace for all Iranians and for all mankind. The Soviet Union does all it can to promote peace on earth and to remove the most horrible danger that threatens each nation and person on this earth, the threat of a nuclear war. Within the framework of its struggles to thwart this threat the Soviet Union proposed the resumption of the Soviet-U.S. talks now being held in Geneva. Our country is diligently striving not only to end the nuclear arms race on earth, but also to prevent its extension to outer space.

For our Iranian listeners, the pursuit of peace is primarily linked with the need to end the bloody Iran-Iraq war that has been going on for almost 5 years. From the very start, the Soviet Union announced that this war is meaningless for both parties involved and pointed out the need to end it. We, together with the Iranian people, hope that the New Year will see the end of the war.

Gennadiy Abdeyev then said: On behalf of the members of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, I hope that in the New Year 1364, [beginning on 21 Mar 1985] good neighborly Soviet-Iranian relations and joint cooperation will expand. Workers in various production units, such as the manometers factory in Moscow which exports its products to Iran, are group members of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran. Cultural and scientific organizations, schools, various departments such as the Lenin State Library, the Orientology Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and other departments have had contacts with Iran for a long time. Several thousand Soviet people working in these units and organizations are well aware that there are numerous possibilities for the expansion of fruitful cooperation on the principle of mutual benefit for our two nations as well as for the expansion of relations in the economic, cultural, and scientific fields.

Gennadiy Abdeyev then said: In the year 1363 [year ending 20 March 1985], the society was involved in many activities aimed at acquainting our country's social circles with the various aspects of life in Iran. Soviet experts on Iran and Soviet experts who have been in Iran spoke to workers, farmers, employees, and students in factories, offices, clubs, and cultural societies about our southern neighbor. Cultural meetings dedicated to the works of talented people and the Soviet Union's great friend Dehkhoda, as well as to the works of the outstanding author Sadeq Hedayat were very interesting.

A special meeting of the society's central board of directors was held on the sixth anniversary of the 11 February anti-imperialist and antimonarchical revolution in Iran, in which members of the Iranian Embassy participated.

Gennadiy Abdeyev expressed regret that, for reasons not connected with the Soviet side, at present not all possibilities for cultural cooperation with Iran can be utilized. For a few years now the Iranian Society for Cultural Ties With the Soviet Union has not been operating and we are deprived of contacts with it. It is hoped that the new year will see the improvement of social relations between our two countries. This will help strengthen good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Iran, something for which the Soviet Union is working with all sincerity and through its actions.

In conclusion Gennadiy Abdeyev said: On behalf of the tens of thousands of members of the Soviet Society for Cultural Ties With Iran, I once again extend my wishes to all the Iranian people for an auspicious Now Ruz and I express hopes for peace, happiness, welfare, and a happy future for all Iranian families.

TASS CITES IRAQI, IRANIAN 21 MAR BATTLE REPORTS

LD211731 Moscow TASS in English 1554 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad March 21 TASS -- The chief military command of Iraq has reported in its communique that in the past 24 hours the fighting continued in the northern section of the front, in the Maysan sector and in the area east of Basra. The enemy sustained losses in manpower and materiel.

Iraqi aviation hit strikes on "selected aims" in Tebriz, Dezful, Hamadan, Esfahan, Kermanshah and Bushir. Iraqi fighter planes shot down an enemy plane in the airspace of Iran.

The communique noted that the total losses of the Iranian Army, according to specified data, amount to 27,000 men killed in the area of Al-Hawizah marshland where fierce fighting was under way during the week.

Nicosia March 21 TASS -- Iranian artillery yesterday bombarded civilian and military structures in Basra, Mandaili, Khanaqin and a number of other Iraqi cities, it is said in a report of the IRNA news agency (Iran). Exchanges of artillery fire took place along the whole line of the front. Depots of ammunition, military equipment were destroyed, losses in manpower were inflicted upon the enemy.

According to the IRNA news agency, more than 12,000 Iraqi servicemen were killed in the course of combat actions in the area of the Al-Hawizah marshland, more than 3,000 were taken prisoner.

SHARPEVILLE ANNIVERSARY, APARTHEID DISCUSSED

MB211550 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 20 Mar 85

[(Aleksandr Zhasohov) commentary]

[Text] Each year, according to the UN Charter, 21 March is commemorated as anti-apartheid day. In today's program, (Aleksandr Zhasohov), the first deputy chairman of AAPSO, comments.

This day commemorates all those people who were murdered 25 years ago in Sharpeville by the South African Government for demonstrating against the pass laws, said (Aleksandr Zhasohov). Today, the problems born from apartheid have not changed a bit. The black inhabitants still have to sweat and shed blood in their fight to overthrow the white minority in that country.

Today, the police continue oppressing all those affected by the apartheid laws. On Friday of last week during unrest in the black areas 22 blacks were injured. The apartheid policy not only oppresses the peoples of South Africa, said Mr (Aleksandr Zhasohov), but violates international human rights according to the UN Charter. Under the international human rights charter of 1948, it is stated that all humans are born free and equal regardless of skin color, political affiliation, race, or creed. The international community commemorates this day by observing it as anti-apartheid day. The South African Government has shown everyone that it is intent on preaching the gospel of oppression of the black race. This will not do in this world.

The South African Government is not only oppressing the blacks in South Africa, but also those in Angola and Namibia, and also causing problems for the neighboring countries in the world.

This kind of apartheid is also practiced by the United States against Grenadians. Apartheid has its roots in many other countries and the worst culprit is the United States, followed by the British against the peoples of Northern Ireland. The perpetuation of apartheid policy has been evident in the intent of the United States and other NATO countries to continue to give priority to developing types of weapons that discriminate against peoples from Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East on the basis of skin color.

Over the past 10 years, the United Nations has been engaged in efforts to eliminate apartheid, which have received world acclaim and proved very effective. There remains a lot to be done to eradicate this disgraceful system throughout the world. It was therefore not by mistake that the United Nations deemed it necessary to fight all forms of apartheid in the world, said Aleskandr (Zhasohov).

BOTSWANA PRESIDENT HAILS TIES WITH USSR

PM211425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "A High Rating"]

[Text] Gaborone, 20 Mar -- President Quett Masire of the Republic of Botswana has rated highly the fruitful cooperation between the USSR and Botswana. Speaking here on the 15th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, he expressed confidence that the ties of friendship uniting the Soviet Union and Botswana will continue to develop for the good of the two states' peoples.

FURTHER ON CUBAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC TALKS

Arkhipov Meets Rodriguez Llompart

PM211429 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Developing Cooperation"]

[Text] On 20 March I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received H. Rodriguez Llompart, Cuban minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. There was a friendly conversation on questions of developing economic cooperation between the USSR and Cuba.

Protocol Signed

LD211751 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Soviet-Cuban economic negotiations have closed in Moscow on Wednesday. The two countries signed a protocol saying their cooperation has been fruitful. Over 200 factories and other projects have been built in Cuba with Soviet assistance. According to tentative estimates, the volume of Soviet technological assistance to Cuba by the end of the current 5-year period will grow 1.7 times as compared with the previous 5-year period.

USSR DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT TO BRAZIL

PM211453 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "For the Benefit of the Peoples"]

[Text] Brasilia, 20 Mar -- A USSR delegation headed by P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has been received by U. Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies of the National Congress and president of the Brazilian Democratic Movement. During the talk which took place, the two sides expressed satisfaction with the development of cooperation between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Brazilian National Congress. It was noted that the constant exchange of parliamentary delegations serves the cause of the consolidation of peace and mutual understanding between the Soviet and Brazilian peoples.

At the end of the talk, U. Guimaraes told Soviet journalists that the USSR and Brazil must strengthen their cooperation in the interests of peace and peaceful coexistence among the peoples. The parliaments, which play a tremendous part in the rapprochement of the peoples, including the Soviet and Brazilian peoples, make an important contribution to this noble cause.

On 19 March, the USSR delegation met with J. Fragelli, president of the National Congress Federal Senate. At the meeting there was a discussion of some topical questions of the world situation and there was an affirmation of the readiness of the two countries' parliaments to develop fruitful ties for the benefit of the Soviet and Brazilian peoples.

Brazilian Foreign Minister O. Setubal received P.G. Gilashvili, the head of the USSR delegation. During their talk questions concerning the prospects of the development of Soviet-Brazilian relations in various fields were discussed.

On the same day the USSR delegation, which had taken part in official events to mark the transfer of presidential power, left for home.

EDITORIAL VIEWS PROSPECTS UNDER GORBACHEV

PM191519 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 16 Mar 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Always With the Party'"]

[Text] The country's work days: the successes and innovatory initiatives of industrial workers, the spring concerns of farmers, the call signs of the "Red Saturday," the rhythms of new construction projects, the creative questing of scientists and of figures in the arts. Such is our Soviet character, shaped by Lenin's party: It is determined by civic consciousness of the fact that everything thanks to which the motherland, our home, is strong and rich is created only by labor, struggle, and the indefatigable creative work of each of us.

This immutable truth found convincing confirmation in the documents of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum, which demonstrated the party's unshakable loyalty to the Leninist course of creation and peace and the continuity in its foreign and domestic policy. This was evidenced by the unanimous election of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, eminent figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and loyal Leninist, as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the plenum, which met with nationwide approval.

Our country's Communists and all Soviet people have perceived as a guide for action the propositions contained in Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the funeral meeting in Moscow's Red Square. They define in great depth the topical content of the party's strategic line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of the life of society, which was and still is immutable. This line, tested by the whole party's and the entire people's experience of struggle and achievements, permeates all aspects of the life of Soviet society -- from the transformation of the material and technical base of socialist production to the improvement of social, above all economic, relations, the comprehensive development of the person himself, and the qualitative improvement of his material living and working conditions and his spiritual makeup. The specific directions outlined in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's speeches for implementing Lenin's course at the contemporary stage accord with the fundamental interests of all Soviet working people, and this constitutes their tremendous mobilizing force.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum emphasized that the party will continue to unswervingly pursue the social policy elaborated by it and called for increasingly profound and concrete substance to be breathed into its program thesis: Everything in man's name, for the good of man. This is the goal of all the efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet state in switching the national economy to the path of intensive development, where, in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee plenum instructions, a decisive shift is to be achieved in the creative application of the fundamental principles of socialist management and in mobilizing the masses to fulfill and overfulfill plan targets. Here the party proceeds from Lenin's thesis that socialism will demonstrate its advantages, not by force of arms but by force of example in all spheres of the vital activity of society -- economic, political, and moral. Today it is more essential than ever to organically combine the transforming force of our ideology with the resolution of economic and social tasks.

Broad public approval was elicited by the thesis noted at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that the improvement of man's living conditions must be based on this increasing contribution to the common cause. Social justice, this very important factor of the unity and stability of the socialist society, is inevitably violated wherever deviations from this principle occur.

POLITBURO HOLDS REGULAR MEETING 21 MARCH

PM220937 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] At its regular meeting the CPSU Central Committee Politburo discussed tasks stemming from the guidelines set by the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee directed at mobilizing the party, state bodies, public organizations, and all components of the economic mechanism, at achieving a decisive turn towards placing the economy on the track of intensification and acceleration of the social and economic development of Soviet society. Special emphasis was placed on the need to strengthen labor, state, and party discipline, to resolutely struggle against any manifestations of showiness and irresponsibility, everything that contradicts the socialist norms of life.

It was stressed that the Soviet Union will further firmly and consistently pursue the course of peace and progress, adhere to the Leninist principles of peace and peaceful coexistence.

Of great importance in this respect was a friendly meeting last week of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev with leaders of parties and states of the Warsaw Treaty countries. The exchange of opinions at the meeting confirmed the common approach to the topical questions discussed. It will promote the further development and perfection of all-around ties of the fraternal countries, their close interaction in the political, economic, ideological, defense, and other spheres.

The common interests of the community require a consistent implementation of the decisions of the economic summit conference of the CEMA member-countries, the advance of economic cooperation along the road of the deepening of socialist integration.

By pooling efforts, each of the fraternal countries gets increasingly greater national economic effect. The socialist community has the necessary potential to continue strengthening the positions of socialism in the world scene, and to build up actions aimed at preventing a nuclear war. The Warsaw Pact, the reliable instrument of safeguarding peace, will continue playing a major role in that.

The Politburo fully approved the results of the friendly meetings and conversations with the leaders of the delegations of other socialist countries and reaffirmed the will of the CPSU and the Soviet state expressed at those meetings to cherish and comprehensively strengthen, as before, fraternal friendship with our allies and give priority to socialist countries in foreign policy affairs.

The Politburo pointed out the importance of the talks held by Mikhail Gorbachev, Nikolay Tikhonov, and Andrey Gromyko with the leaders of many countries visiting Msocow. Those talks became another emphatic manifestation of the policy of the consolidation of peace and the establishment of equitable relations between nations consistently pursued by the Soviet Union. The nonaligned states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America will continue to be our partners and friends in the struggle for these goals. The experience of detente of the 1970's has proved that relations with capitalist countries can also develop well in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and cooperation, provided both sides are ready for it. The Soviet Union is ready to follow this line.

The most important thing today is to rally and build up efforts aimed at preventing the arms race in outer space and stopping it on earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear armaments, which would become a step eventually leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. It is in this direction that the Soviet Union will make efforts at the Soviet-U.S. talks that recently began in Geneva.

The accounts of Comrades Vasily Kuznetsov and Boris Ponomarev of the conversations they had had with the leaders of communist, socialist, and national democratic parties and representatives of the supreme bodies of state power of a number of countries were approved.

The Politburo discussed and made decisions at its meeting on a number of questions related to the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War and to the participation of the working people of our country and other socialist states in preparations for that remarkable event.

The Politburo discussed and approved the measures drawn up by the USSR Council of Ministers for the further development of irrigated farming in the Rostov region and for raising its efficiency through the comprehensive implementation of programmes to build irrigation facilities, introduce industrial-type processes in crop farming, and to improve the lands.

The Politburo heard Vitaliy Vorotnikov's account of the activity of the Soviet delegation that had paid a visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the governments of Serbia and Montenegro. The meetings and conversations between the delegation and the leaders of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Socialist Republics of Serbia and Montenegro reiterated the sides' mutual desire for the further extension of cooperation between the CPSU and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and between the USSR and Yugoslavia, and also for the extension of mutually beneficial economic, scientific, and technical contacts, for broadening contacts in science and culture, and for extending collaboration on the international scene.

Having studied Nikolay Tikhonov's and Andrey Gromyko's report on the meeting with French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas, the Politburo noted that this meeting had once again demonstrated the certain closeness of the positions of our countries on such important matters as the need to return to the policy of detente, the strengthening of European security, the maintenance of the balance of forces at the lowest possible level, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Note was also made of the mutual striving of the USSR and France to further deepen mutually advantageous cooperation and exchanges in the fields of economy, technology, and culture along with the development of political dialogue.

The Politburo approved Vladimir Shcherbitskiy's report on the results of the visit of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation to the United States. The Politburo pointed to the vast work carried out by the delegation during meetings and conversations with representatives of the U.S. Administration and Congress, as well as U.S. public and business circles, to explain the Soviet Union's principled stand on questions of Soviet-U.S. relations and cardinal international problems, above all those related to the ending of the nuclear arms race and the prevention of space militarization. The Politburo emphasized the importance of the further development of ties with the United States also along the lines of supreme legislative bodies in the interests of improving mutual understanding and organizing mutually advantageous cooperation, in the interests of consolidating peace.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo also discussed some other questions of the implementation of the domestic and foreign policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON SOCIALIST COMPETITION

PM211613 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Communists and Competition"]

[Text] In resolving the tasks associated with the transfer of the economy onto a footing of intensive development, our party firmly relies on the masses' initiatives and energy. It is hard to overestimate the role of socialist competition: It promotes the fullest possible emergence of the working people's creative potential and increases their responsibility for the destiny of plans and pledges. The leadership of competition is one of the paramount concerns of party committees and primary party organizations.

In the conditions of the intensification of the economy, the question of how to organize competition takes a new form. It is necesary to resolutely reject obsolete approaches and methods that are oriented to results and indicators based purely on gross output and quantity. The competitors' efforts must be channeled into the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the precise implementation of contract commitments, the improvement of output quality, and the saving of resources. Above all, it was noted at the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum that it is necesary to successfully complete work to fulfill this year's plans for economic and social development, and to thereby ensure a confident start to the next 5-year plan. In a number of sectors, because of the severe winter, this work has been retarded. It is necessary to mobilize reserves and make up for lost time in order to reach the targets set.

Many party committees and primary party organizations display constant concern for increasing the effectiveness of labor rivalry and persistently put into practice the Leninist principles of the organization of competition: publicity, comparability of results, and imitation of the experience of the best people. In this regard, Communists operate in close contact with trade union and Komsomol organizations and economic leaders.

The practice of a number of party committees in Vladimir Oblast to step up the thrift policy is instructive. Thus, Muron and Kovrov Gorkoms, and then the party obkom, energetically supported the initiative of the workers and specialists who launched a competition under the slogan "An individual savings record for every city and rayon." On the Communists' initiative, public reviews of reserves are held and a permanent oblast exhibition on "Savings, Thrift, Quality" has been set up. The successful introduction of resource-saving machinery and the utilization of commercial waste are promoted by the collaboration between scientific and technical progress that has been created under the party obkom.

Competition is a living, creative process: It does not tolerate a stereotyped, formal attitude, but demands precise consideration of the specific nature of production and the real conditions of economic activity. Team forms of work and the large-scale economic experiment are now introducing into labor collectives' practice changes that cannot fail to affect the organization of competition. However, there are still places where they are not being taken into account. Some enterprises are in no hurry to introduce the necessary adjustments to the conditions of the competition or the system of incentives and are neglecting the requirements of financial autonomy. In short, they are operating in the same old way. Help from trade union and economic organs, however, is frequently inadequate and in a number of instances amounts to no more than drawing up instructions and recommendations.

Party organs, whether a ministry party committee, gorkom, or raykom, must not remain aloof from the competitors' pressing concerns.

It is clear that here we must teach people by means of actual experience and involve activists and public organs such as councils of directors and team leaders, people's control committees and posts, deputies' groups, interdepartmental commissions, and standing production conferences more extensively in its study and dissemination. In light of the new requirements, we must improve incentive measures more quickly, develop team forms of competition, and make greater use of the competitive spirit in scientific and technical creation.

In participating in competition, workers, kolkhoz members, and specialists not only master advanced work methods and improve their skill, but also acquire expertise in production management and strengthen their sense of ownership, conscious discipline, and comradely mutual assistance. Unfortunately, this aspect of the matter is not accorded due significance everywhere. Hence there is an underassessment of moral incentives and an inability or reluctance on the part of some competition organizers to rely on collective opinion in the struggle against violators of discipline and others.

It is primarily the responsibility of party committees and primary party organizations to ensure that these shortcomings are eradicated more rapidly and that the role of the moral aspects of labor competition is enhanced.

The competition to mark the 40th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War and the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanovite movement is now gathering momentum. People who strive to make greater use of and support labor collectives' traditions and combine economic and educational measures better are acting correctly. An atmosphere of high exactingness and commitment and creative quest in every collective and at every work place is what is especially needed today.

Lofty pledges and counterplans have been adopted everywhere for the current concluding year of the 5-year plan. Most collectives have started to fulfill them without more ado. However, the first months of work have shown that in a number of sectors there are still bottlenecks, and considerable reserves remain concealed.

Setting an example of creative labor and responsibility Communists are called on to help the laggards and for this purpose to make better use of schools and seminars to exchange experience, mutual checks, and mentorship. The strictist monitoring of the fulfillment of what has been planned must be arranged in every collective and in every sector, without allowing those who are in arrears or standing still to hide behind those who are forging ahead.

A principled stance on the part of the party committee and the primary party organization is especially important when it is a question of observing contractual discipline, fulfilling targets for the introduction of new equipment, scientific achievements, and advanced experience, and improving output quality. Here, there can be no indulgences or compromises to the detriment of state interests, and any manifestations of parochialism or a narrow departmental approach must be given a strict party appraisal.

The active participation of millions of people in socialist competition and the utmost party support for their initiative and enterprise are the true guarantees that every labor collective in city or country will achieve the planned targets and fittingly greet our party's 27th congress.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITORIAL ON POLICY CONTINUITY

PM211107 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "A Consistent, Principled Policy"]

[Text] In their practical activity in the international arena, the Communist Party and Soviet state have always been and are guided by Lenin's proposition that a principled policy is the only correct policy. This was convincingly reaffirmed by the results of the CPSU Central Committee 11 March Extraordinary Plenum. The plenum documents and the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers' appeal to the Communist Party and the Soviet people demonstrated to the whole world that the strategic line formulated at the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums has been and remains immutable, consistent, and clear. In the foreign policy sphere, it is a course of peace and progress.

In its struggle to establish an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding among all peoples and states, to consolidate international security, to safeguard man's main right -- the right to live in peace and freedom -- and to ensure a happy future for all mankind, the Soviet Union enjoys the widest support. The USSR's closest comrades-in-arms and allies, the countries of the great socialist community, are acting in a united front with it. Cooperation with the fraternal communist, workers', and revolutionary democratic parties is becoming ever closer, and interaction among all revolutionary forces is strengthening. Soviet foreign policy is encountering ever-growing support on the part of the peoples and states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America that have embarked on the path of independent development. The Soviet Union's peace-loving course is becoming increasingly attractive to working people and all progressive-minded people in the developed capitalist states as well.

The USSR intends to continue to cherish and comprehensively strengthen the fraternal friendship with the socialist community states. The Soviet Union is doing everything possible and necessary to strengthen this great community and consolidate socialism's positions. During the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's recent meeting with the heads of party and state delegations from the Warsaw Pact states, it was stressed that in the complex international situation, the strengthening of the fraternal countries' unity and cohesion and the stronger coordination of their actions in the international arena are of special significance.

True to its principled course, the Soviet Union has always backed the peoples' struggle for liberation from colonial oppression. The USSR treats the countries and peoples defending their freedom and independence and following the path of social progress as its friends and partners in the struggle for peace and for better, just relations between peoples. At the same time, it has invariably advocated and is advocating constructive dialogue and practical measures leading to the lessening of international tension and the establishment of an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding among all peoples and states.

The struggle for peace and for the termination of the arms race imposed by imperialism remains the permanent pivot of the foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state. As was stressed at the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum, never before has mankind been faced with as terrible a threat as it faces now. The only reasonable way out of the situation is an accord between the opposing forces on the immediate cessation of the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, on earth and the prevention of an arms race in space. An honest and equal accord -- this is the way the USSR approaches the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

However, the bellicose forces of imperialism are continuing to hatch plans for military superiority over socialism. They have the vain notion that in this way they will be able to "change" the new social system to suit them or destroy it and ensure the implementation of hegemonist plans. This can only lead to a further increase in the threat to the peoples' very existence, to life on earth. To bank on force and on the attainment of military superiority is to lead interstate relations up a blind alley, thus making it impossible to find a reasonable solution to the burning issues of the present day.

Of late, the Soviet Union has once again confirmed that it is not seeking one-sided advantages or military superiority over the United States and the NATO countries. The USSR wants to halt, not continue the arms race. Therefore, it proposes freezing nuclear arsenals and halting the further deployment of missiles, and it is putting forward other, far-reaching peace initiatives. The Soviet Union wants a real and major reduction in arms stockpiles, not the creation of more and more weapon systems, whether in space or on earth.

Yes, the Soviet Union is threatening no one, it is not seeking military superiority. However, it will not let any other country or coalition of states acquire superiority. That is why Soviet people will continue to tirelessly increase their vigilance and strengthen the defense capability of their socialist motherland.

The 40th anniversary of the great victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism is drawing near. The Soviet people, the peoples of the socialist countries, and the progressive people of the world are preparing to celebrate this important anniversary. The Soviet Union is convinced that the 40th anniversary of victory could be fittingly celebrated by new steps in the process of arranging mutually advantageous cooperation among states on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs.

The numerous responses by the world public and the media in various countries to the results of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum are evidence of Soviet foreign policy's high prestige and its influence on all aspects of international life. The Leninist foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state opens up for all mankind the path to a peaceful and happy future.

This course accords with the fundamental vital interests and aspirations of all Soviet people and meets with their full approval and support. The troops of the USSR Armed Forces join the rest of the people in warmly approving it. In the real conditions of a complex and dangerous international situation, they see it as their patriotic and international duty to strengthen the might of the beloved homeland with their military labor, keep a vigilant eye on the aggressive intrigues of the enemies of peace and socialism, tirelessly improve the Army and Navy's combat readiness, and vigilantly watch over the security of the Soviet Union and its comrades-in-arms, allies, and friends.

ZAGLADIN ON 'VARIETY' OF SOCIALIST FORMS

AU211222 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 20 Mar 85 p 4

[Article by Vadim Zagladin, first deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department: "Real Socialism's Historical Experience"]

[Text] Great discussion are now taking place on the issue of what socialism will look like in this or that country. This is undoubtedly a positive act, which testifies to the fact that the cause of socialism is moving forward.

Naturally, the thoughts expressed at such discussions cannot be of equal value. Marxists believe that only practical experience can be the decisive criterion of the correctness or fallibility of various situations. It is practical experience that will show which of the currently expressed ideas are correct and which are not.

However, the Soviet people's past, as well as what has already been done by other peoples that have started along the road of socialism, confirm the correctness of the Leninist thought: The characteristic features of socialist construction can be exceptionally versatile; however, they relate only to the main point, namely the fact that the experience of about 10 completely different countries has fully confirmed the existence of certain general laws of socialism.

The existance of common characteristics and laws of socialism is sometimes denied not only by bourgeois ideologists, but also by some representatives of the revolutionary movement. What can one say about this?

The common characteristics and laws of socialism are nobody's invention or fantasy. Their existence is predetermined first of all by the fact that capitalism, the system that precedes historical socialism possesses characteristics with absolutely determined and generally equal lines of principles, despite the variety of its development's forms. It is namely these lines that are to be liquidated so as to construct the new socialist society by removing exploitation and oppression. On the other hand, socialism, despite the variety of the forms of its existence, must have essential common lines that set it apart from the old system.

Today we can mention four most important factors among socialism's basic characteristics or laws: establishing the government of the workers' class and its allies; implementing profound and qualitatively new changes of an economic and social-political character, which ensure the liquidation of exploitation and all forms of oppression; educating the masses, and first of all, the workers' class, in the spirit of the ideas of socialism, and mobilizing the working people in the struggle to construct the socialist society; and defending the achievements of socialism. These basic laws were evident in all socialist revolutions conducted until now. As long as these laws have not been fully implemented in practice, one cannot say that the society has become fully socialist. In such cases, an opportunity exists for the activity of domestic and foreign forces hostile to socialism, and then the interests of the working people cannot be fully implemented.

Whever the common laws of socialism are discussed, its enemies immediately begin to discuss the so-called uniformity of the new society. "If there are common characteristics," they say with hypocritical sorrow, "then this new society of yours can only be gray and monotonous." This is one of the most stupid fabrications of anticommunism.

Real socialism is a living and growing organism. This is a society that merges with the experience of a given nation and its traditions, and thus acquires original characteristic lines in every country. One must perceive the reality of these countries in the variety of forms of their social life and the organization of their economy. This reality represents the wealth of roads and methods of consolidating the socialist way of life, as noted at the 26th CPSU Congress.

In fact, the concrete issues of socialist construction have been solved in a different manner by different countries. In some cases, the solutions coincide with those of the USSR, and in other cases, they differed. For each socialist country there was something specific.

This related first of all to an issue such as the relation between socialist and general democratic tasks at the various stages of the revolution. In most of the people's democracies already at the first stage, in other words, until the establishment of the state power of the workers' class, many tasks of a socialist character were solved when the necessary preconditions existed.

The example of many socialist countries shows the possibility of new and more favorable international conditions for nationalizing the means of production at various stages, so that a certain part of the medium and small-scale industry remains for a while in the hands of the previous owners. It is obvious, however that, in the end, in one way or another this party of industry will become public property. After all, socialism is a system that precludes the exploitation of man by man.

The practice of the socialist countries' communist parties has again confirmed the deep correctness of the Leninist cooperative plan and demonstrated the general significance of its implementation as a necessary element of socialist construction. Hence, the forms and methods of its implementation can be different according to the conditions in this or that country. Thus, for example, in the people's democracies, except for Mongolia, a full nationalization of land was not implemented. There it affected only a part of the major land-owners. Conducting this course, the leading parties took into consideration the fact that the peasantry has a long tradition of owning land, and that in such circumstances an attempt to nationalize the land would undermine the alliance between the workers' class and the peasantry. The implementation of the cooperative plan, which took place at an uneven pace in various countries, and the establishment of production cooperatives neutralized the possibility of negative consequences from such a solution of the issue.

There is no doubt that the concrete forms of socialism and its construction in the countries of Western Europe and North America (or the countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America) will have an even greater diversity. However, as Marx and Lenin repeatedly said, the diversity in the forms of its appearance do not contradict the uniform essence of the new society -- on the contrary, this facilitates its consolidation. The general laws that accompany the development of socialism and its common characteristics were and remain firm.

The common and the specific do not exist separately in nature and public life. The unity of the common and the specific is what guarantees the vitality of natural and social organisms. In this context, socialism differs from natural phenomena in that its constructors are marching along the road that ensures the unity of the common and the specific in a conscious and not a random manner. They creatively utilize the common laws of socialism, discovered by the theory of scientific communism, so that they can more effectively construct the new society, taking into consideration the domestic and foreign conditions.

The workers' class was and remains the social force that is objectively interested in the socialist transformation of society. The communist Marxist-Leninist party was and remains the political force called upon to lead the workers' class and direct the energy of the entire working people toward the implementation of these transformations. The leading role of such a party is closely connected with the workers' class and the people. It listens to their voice, decisively struggles against all manifestations of bureaucracy and voluntarism, actively perfects socialist democracy, and represents a firm guard of socialist legality and morals. Such a party is also one of the tested common laws of socialism.

The peoples of the socialist countries have done a lot during the decades of jointly marching along the road of constructing the new society.

If we take into consideration the level at which they started the construction of socialism, the complexity of the obstacles they had to overcome, and the intensity of the opposition of the old imperialist world with which they had to clash, we can even say that the socialist countries have achieved amazingly great successes. However, the great experience achieved by these countries, the experience of the struggle for the triumph of the new system and afterwards the experience in construction, has a special place and significance among all this, with which world socialism enriched history after 1917.

The problems of constructing the new life and the fundamental reconstruction of the entire society from top to bottom will be faced tomorrow by dozens of peoples. Then they will have to clash, of course, under their own conditions and situation, with essentially the same problems with which the constructors of the new world have clashed since great October. It is here that the experience of real socialism will help them very much.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES GORKOM MEETING 18 MARCH

PM201141 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "In the Light of the Party's Demands"]

[Text] The results of the Extraordinary March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Moscow City Party Organization's tasks were discussed at a meeting of the capital's party aktiv on 18 March.

It was stressed in the report by V.V. Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and in the speeches that Communists and all working people of the capital received the results of the CPSU Central Committee plenum with warm, unanimous approval and are organizing with new strength and energy the struggle to implement the party's strategic line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of Soviet society's life.

Examining the tasks of Moscow's party organizations and labor collectives in light of the party's demands, the meeting participants devoted great attention to questions of further improving economic leadership, improving party organizational and ideological work, strengthening the party's ranks, and developing intraparty democracy.

It was noted that the Moscow City Party Organization, guided by the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, is carrying out major organizational and mass political work to mobilize the working people to speed up the transfer of the city's economy to a path of intensive development and ensure the all-around development of the creative initiative and political and labor activeness of the broad masses of working people. In all sectors of the city's economy the fulfillment of targets for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan and the plan indicators for January-February 1985 was ensured. Now the most important thing is to successfully complete work to fulfill the plan for the year and for the 5-year plan as a whole and to create good preconditions for highly productive labor in the future.

The most important task for party organizations, the speakers stressed, is the steady implementation of the party's line of stepping up exactingness and increasing responsibility for the task in hand. Purposeful work must be done to increase state, production, plan, and labor discipline in all sectors of production and all components of the city's economy and public life.

It was noted at the meeting that the resolution of the tasks put forward by the party requires the improvement of organizational and political activity, intensive, creative work by all components of the city party organization, and the strengthening of the Communists' vanguard role. An increasingly businesslike approach, the ability to put decisions into practice effectively, and the extensive development of people's creative and labor initiative must become the main avenues in the activity of party organizations, the participants said.

Tasks to improve the city party organization's ideological work were examined in detail. It was stressed that the party committees' attention is focused on questions of developing the Muscovites' spiritual nature, increasing public awareness, and ensuring the unity of educational, organizational, and economic efforts.

The aktiv meeting assured the CPSU Central Committee that the capital's party organization, Communists, and all Moscow's working people will do everything necessary to carry out the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee plenum and ensure the successful completion of the plans for the 5-year period and will make a fitting contribution to the cause of building communism.

CHERNENKO FAMILY MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE PUBLISHED

PM211103 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

[Text] To the PRAVDA Editorial Office.

Please convey through your newspaper our profound gratitude to the labor collectives of enterprises, organizations, and institutions, personalities in science, literature, and art, Soviet Army and Navy servicemen, teachers, students, and pupils at educational establishments, and thousands of individual citizens in our country and abroad -- to all who have shared our sorrow in these difficult days and who have expressed their condolences in connection with the death of dear Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

The Chernenko family.

LENINGRAD OBKOM PLENUM VIEWS ON RESPONSIBILITY

PM220801 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent V. Gerasimov article: "From the Leningrad CPSU Obkom Plenum" Increasing Responsibility"]

[Excerpts] Constantly improving work with cadres, stepping up their responsibility for their assignments, and improving the style of leadership -- these tasks are at the center of Leningrad Party Organization's attention. The participants in a party obkom plenum have discussed them inlight of the demands of the Extraordinary March (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

"Leningraders, like all Soviet people, unanimously approve and support the Central Committee plenum decisions," L.N. Zaykov, first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom, said in his report. "The party line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of society's life requires intensive, creative work from the party organization at all levels and Communists everywhere must set an example in the performance of civic duty and conscientious labor."

The report and the speeches delivered at the plenum mentioned the names of those people who by their nature always assume personal responsibility for the outcome of the common cause.

Analyzing work with cadres, the plenum participants said that by no means everyone is working actively in the interests of increasing production efficiency. Attention was drawn to the idea that concern to accelerate scientific and technical progress must become an inalienable feature of a good work style and economic thinking and the subject of vigorous action on the part of economic cadres and party committees.

The results in those places where the fulfillment of the plan does not give way to general discussions on the benefit of intensification, as is still often the case, are clear and instructive.

The best experience must be disseminated more actively. However, innovation is not always readily accepted. Some CPSU raykoms and gorkoms and local soviet ispolkoms show an unforgivable inertia. The Kalininskiy industrial zone, in particular, is planning to reduce manual labor in the next 5-year plan by an amount less than the average for the oblast.

The modernization and retooling of production have long been known to Leningraders as a reliable and economical method of ensuring high end results. It is intolerable that some places spend many years on this work.

The S.M. Kirov Milling Combine has been supplying flour to the bakery industry for almost 50 years now. The enterprises' equipment is run down, obsolete, and worn out. The problem has been urgent for years. However, the fact is viewed with an astonishing indifference by K. Bugayenko, chief of the Bakery Production Administration, and USSR Ministry of Procurements personnel. This is not the only example of negligence, unfortunately. The plenum also mentioned the "Lenbytkhim" and "Prodmash" Associations, the "Bummash" Science-and-Production Association's Experimental Plant, and the Slantsy Cement Plant, where working conditions and equipment levels do not stand up to examination.

The proportion of top-quality output is not growing as quickly as we would like. Why is this? There has been a slackening of performance monitoring and verification, one of the main principles of work with cadres.

Decisions taken on paper are sometimes not implemented. The plenum criticized among others the Vyborg CPSU Gorkom and A. Provorov, its first secretary, for this.

Intensive methods of economic development are also bringing to the fore the problem of improving people's skills, primarily those of workers and engineers. Increasing exactingness and responsibility at all levels of leadership and making leadership more objective and specific -- that is the task the oblast party organization sets itself. Quite a lot has been done recently in this area. Meetings and conferences of various kinds have been reduced by almost one-third. The stream of paperwork has been reduced. New regulations governing the work of the apparatus of the obkom and of CPSU gorkoms and raykoms have been introduced. Party workers now make more visits to labor collectives and give specific assistance in organizing matters. Searching discussions were held during recent interviews at the party obkom with the leadership of Leningrad Gorispolkom and oblispolkom and the chiefs of their administrations. Similar interviews have been held with trade union and Komsomol workers.

Following the course of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, Leningrad's Communists will continue to take firm measures to instill order, strengthen discipline, and eliminate negative phenomena whatever form they take -- ostentatiousness, empty talk, arrogance, irresponsibility, or a careless attitude to one's commitments. Special demands are made here on cadres of raykom, gorkom, and obkom apparatuses. The party worker must set an example of orderliness, principledness, and attentiveness toward people. The aim is to eliminate the element of randomness when promoting cadres to party organs and to prevent all attempts by apparatus workers to use their official position for personal aims.

The resolution that was adopted expresses the confidence that the 600,000-strong detachment of Leningrad Communists and all the working people in the city and the oblast will fulfill the tasks set by the party and will fittingly greet the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th congress of Lenin's party.

IZVESTIYA CARRIES REPORT ON SPRING FLOODS

PM220907 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 21 March 1985 in its Morning Edition carries on page six, under the rubric "On the Spot" and general heading "The First Onslaught of the Floods," reports by its correspondent S. Troyan from Zaporozhye and N. Lisovenko from Voroshilovgrad on flooding resulting from melting snow. Troyan writes that by the morning of 20 March "more than 12,000 houses and 92 population centers in the oblast were flooded. Clubs, cultural centers, and sports halls are being used as temporary accommodations. Local authorities are fully in control of the situation, and all work is proceeding in an organized fashion. Zaporozhye people have their hands full, but there is no cause for alarm." The water has now begun to subside in many places.

N. Lisovenko writes that in Voroshilovgrad Oblast the Lugan River, which normally carries 5-7 cubic meters of water per second in the summer, carried more than 300 cubic meters on 19 March. The flood water put the thermal electric power station at the Voroshilovgradteplovoz Association out of action, but temporary operation is to resume within a day or two. The spring flash floods on other rivers in the oblast are still to come.

NEW MINISTERS NAMED TO TAJIKISTAN POSTS

WA221525 [Editorial Report] Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TAJIKISTANA in Russian in the month of January carries five decrees announcing new appointments. All of the decrees are signed by Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Tajik SSR G. Pallayev, and Secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Tajik SSR I. Rakhimova.

The newspaper carries on page 1 of the 10 January 85 issue the announcement that Aleksei Boltukhanovich Tyuryaev is appointed the minister for agriculture. The statement is dated 9 January 85. The same issue notes on page 4 that former Minister of Agriculture Babayev Aloviddin was transferred from this post to other work.

On 19 January 85 KOMMUNIST TAJIKISTANA carries two decrees on page 1: The first declares that Yuriy Petrovich Zatsarinniy has been appointed deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers for the Tajik SSR; the second notes that Gulnora Kamilovna Pulatova has been named minister of health for the republic. Both statements are dated 18 January 85. The same paper carries on page 4 a notice that former Minister of Health Ivan Andreyevich Sazhenin was released from his duties to retire.

On 20 January 85 two decrees appear on page 1 of KOMMUNIST TAJIKISTANA. The first announces the appointment of Vladimir Viktorovich Petkel as the chairman of the KGB for Tajikistan. The second decree states that Sergey Shermatovich Akhurov has been named chairman of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply for the Tajik SSR. Both announcements are dated 18 January 85. The same paper carries on page 4 two related notices. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Tajik SSR released Yevgeniy Ivanovich Perventsev from his duties as chairman of the Tajik KGB in connection with a transfer to other work. It is also noted that Bobo Azizovich Merzayev was released from his duties as chairman of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply so that he may retire.

BRIEFS

PRESIDIUM DECREES LABOR HERO -- For great services to the development of Soviet theatrical art, Artist of the State Vakhtangov Academic Theatre, USSR People's Artist Yuliy Konstantinovna Borisova, by decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, with the presentation to her of the Order of Lenin and Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal. [Text] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Mar 85 LD]

MOLDAVIAN SUPREME SOVIET CHAIRMAN AWARDED -- By a decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Ivan Petrovich Kalin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the Moldavian SSR, has been awarded the Order of Lenin. In this way, his great services for the Communist Party and the Soviet state, as well as his 50th anniversary, were marked. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Mar 85 LD]

NEW EDITION OF LENIN BIOGRAPHY -- The life and activity of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, leader of the Great October Socialist Revolution and founder of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, are examined in his learned biography, the first volume of which has been published by the Politicheskaya Literatura Publishing House. During preparation of this new, seventh edition, a number of improvements were made to the text and new facts were added. The book was prepared by the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 18 Mar 85 LD]

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION IN YEREVAN -- Istvan Tuza, official of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Propaganda Department, has visited our republic. He acquainted himself with the situation of the republic's laborers and Soviet Armenia's achievements in economy, science, and culture. At the party and soviet aktiv of the Yerevan Miyasnikyan Rayon, I. Tuza delivered a speech under the theme "40 Years of Socialist Hungary and the Preparations for the Eighth Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Congress." The guest held a meeting with Academician G. Garibdzanyan, chairman of the Armenian branch of the Soviet-Hungarian Friendship Society, as well as with war veterans who had participated in the liberation of Hungary from the German aggressors. I. Tuza also held talks at the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department. [Summary] [Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 3 Mar 85 p 2 GF]

ZAGLADIN REJECTS ADOPTION OF 'MARKET ECONOMY'

LD211856 Moscos TASS International Service in Russian 1457 GMT 21 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 21 Mar (TASS) -- First place among the concerns of the CPSU, of the whole people, has been and is occupied by the economy, Vadim Zagladin writes in the latest copy of the weekly NOVOYE VREMYA. The target that has been ascribed primary importance now is shifting the national economy onto a path of intensive development. A mainline trend here is the technological reequipment of the national economy. An inalienable part of the work aimed at fulfilling these tasks is perfection of the economic mechanism and the whole economic system.

Western "benefactors", V. Zagladin writes, quite often try to give us various recommendations concerning the way our country is to proceed and the path it is to follow in order to achieve new successes in economic development. These recipes as a rule boil down to one thing: advising the Soviet Union to give up the principles of economic development that have established themselves in our country, to adopt the mechanism of the so-called market economy.

That would signify renouncing the socialist economic basis of our society, which is determined by the dominance of public ownership of the means of production, V. Zagladin writes. "Recommendations" of this sort fully accord with the wish of Western politicians and ideologists to see socialism done away with, wiped off the face of the earth.

But naturally our people and party will never do that. This is not because of blind commitment to some kind of abstract ideas, but because throughout the history of the Soviet state the socialist principles of development have completely demonstrated their viability. The Soviet Union will continue to develop on the basis of the fundamental principles of socialist economic management, Vadim Zagladin stresses.

AVAILABILITY OF CONSUMER GOODS DISCUSSED

LD220613 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0645 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Summary] Moscow, 20 Mar (TASS) -- During the past 15 years, sales of nonfoodstuff consumer goods in the USSR has increased 2.2 times, expressed in comparable prices. In an interview, Yevgeniy Myasin, department head at the Scientific-Research Institute for Market Research Into the Population's Demand for Consumer Goods and the State of Trade, said that consumer demand for many goods is being fully met. There are some goods, especially high quality ones, for which demand is outstripping present production and sales capacities. The Soviet state rejects achieving a balance in supply and demand through income restrictions or price rises. Without rejecting price changes as an important economic instrument, the state aims to achieve price stability for basic essential goods. A solution to the problem is being sought in expanding goods production. Last year, for example, consumer goods production in the USSR increased by 4.3 percent, compared with 1983.

Yevgeniy Myasin said that his institute is developing a methodology for trade and industry based on market research and gave recommendations on the range of goods. It is not the average consumer that is taken into consideration. After all, the demand is becoming increasingly selective. That is why we give a kind of social portrait of various groups of the population, indicating what kind of goods they need most. Income, level of culture, national traditions, and customs are taken into account.

The institute gives the USSR Ministry of Trade forecasts of the trends in buyers' demand. In working out the long-term trends of development of the range of goods, we take into consideration, for example what new long-term-use goods families are interested in, where the highest level of income is, and where high cultural demands are. With time and the increase of prosperity, families with such incomes will constitute the majority, and it will become necessary to produce such goods on a large scale.

RSFSR INDUSTRIES CRITICIZED FOR LOW OUTPUT

PM211131 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 20 Mar 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has examined progress in the fulfillment of the plan for the republic's economic and social development in January-February 1985. A serious shortfall was noted: In the first 2 months production of industrial output fell by 1.5 percent in comparison with last year. Overall, industry fulfilled the targets for output sales, but its observance of supply commitments began to deteriorate. Labor productivity also began falling and for the first time in the recent past began lagging behind the growth rate for wages. The prime costs of output rose.

In agriculture, milk and egg production and the size of the cattle and pig herds increased during January and February but purchases of certain kinds of livestock products fell.

The yearly plan for the commissioning of fixed capital was only 3.2 percent fulfilled. The greatest shortfalls in the use of capital investment quotas occurred within the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of the Textile Industry, the Ministry of the Food Industry, and the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry.

The work of transport was unsatisfactory. The railroads failed to fulfill the plan for shipment of the majority of the important types of national economic freight including coal, peat, and timber. Although freightcar idle times during loading operations did not increase, they remain considerable. No improvement was seen in the work of road transport, either.

Stocks of goods increased in the trade sector. They now exceed the set norms. The trade turnoverplan was not fulfilled. Compared with the plan the volume of consumer services provided to the population was below target, particularly in the countryside.

Analyzing the causes of the situation that has emerged, the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium directed the attention of ministry and department leaders to organizational omissions which, in conjuction with objective difficulties, have led to the backlog. Of course the severe winter made the work of sectors difficult, above all in the power industry and transport, and equipment was out of action at enterprises, some of which were experiencing a shortage of raw materials. At the same time, the inability of some leaders to take correct and prompt decisions in the difficult situation also took its toll. At enterprises of the RSFSR Ministry of Forestry, for example, an inadequate level of labor organization and inadequate utilization of equipment were observed. The main reserve there is to increase shift operation of timber transport. The textile industry was sometimes short of raw materials, but there were also unprocessed stocks of raw materials in existence. The Ministry of the Food Industry, the Ministry of Local Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry had a real opportunity to fulfill the plan targets for the first 2 months. Some leaders are still citing difficulties and asking for privileged terms even though winter has now passed and we are in the second half of March.

It is essential to overcome the force of that inertia faster and to be more resolute in eradicating resort to empty talk and attempts to hide behind objective factors. The task set is to make up for the backlog that has been created. Equipment, engineering invention, and other reserves must be used efficiently to achieve that goal.

The session examined the experience of the Shelokhovo City Soviet in Irkutsk Oblast in ensuring the city's comprehensive economic and social development. It was emphasized that by exercising its rights and making active use of deputies' posts and groups and other forms of soviet work, the city soviet is cooperating successfully with the various sectors and is doing much to promote the city's harmonious developments. The experience was approved and the recommendation made that it be widely disseminated.

The RSFSR Council of Minister Presidium also examined the question of measures to further improve the use of pensioners' and disabled people's labor in the RSFSR national economy.

The session was conducted by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

BRIEFS

YEAR-ROUND ARCTIC NAVIGATION -- The icebreaker Moskva was solemnly welcomed in Vladivostok today. The vessel has been away from its home port for a record period, almost 12 months. For the first time in world practice, its crew carried out a year-round navigation in the polar latitudes of the Chukhotka shores of the Arctic. Thanks to the icebreaker's work, ports in the north could function, the heavy-tonnage fleet of the Far East could operate, and economically important national cargoes reached consumers without interruption. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Mar 85 LD]

ICEBREAKER LEAVES WHITE SEA -- It is reported from Arkhangelsk that the atomic-powered icebreaker Leonid Brezhnev has concluded its work in the White Sea, having led a convoy of six ocean-going transport ships from the Dvina estuary through thick ice. The ships are now travelling independently through the Barents Sea, and the Leonid Brezhnev has set off the Karskoye Mour to help the atomic-powered icebreaker Sibir lead a convoy there. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 15 Mar 85 LD]

PASSAGE ON NORTHERN SEA ROUTE DIFFICULT -- The atomic icebreaker Sibir is working in difficult weather. Severe frosts and snowstorms are hindering the passage of ships on the northern sea route. Nevertheless, they are running exactly on schedule. The all-weather helicopter K-32, which is undergoing tests aboard the Sibir, is helping the seamen. It has a special set of electronic instruments, and powerful searchlights for night work. It is also equipped with pontoons, so that it can land on water if necessary. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2200 GMT 14 Mar 85 LD]

LIVESTOCK OFFICIAL EVALUATES WINTERING ON FARMS

LD202349 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has summed up data on the progress of wintering and livestock farms. As noted by Vyacheslav Mikhaylovich Kozhevnikov, deputy head of the Main Livestock Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, in his comments on them, farm workers generally are maintaining the output of produce. Compared with the same period last year, livestock procurement has increased by 6 percent in 2 and 1/2 months of the current year. An average, as much milk has been produced daily as in the same period last year. There is now a real possibility of completing all plans for the first quarter.

However, in many oblasts and republics, there remains significant unexploited reserves. Thus, milk production has fallen in some oblasts of Kazakhstan and the Ukraine. In the Russian Federation, farm productivity has declined in the Kemerovo, Saratov, and Perm Oblasts, among others.

Not everywhere was the complexity of the current wintering successfully countered by a high level of organization. Weight-gains in stock on sheep farms in Kazakhstan, Kalmykia and Kirgizia fell slightly.

Lambing and calving is now in progress everywhere. This is a very important season. It is essential, Comrade Kozhevnikov noted, that in the breeding period additional measures be taken to safeguard the young animals. To this end it is necessary to insulate livestock premises and, where the need arises, to assign additional hands to assist the livestock workers.

CHIMKENT OBLAST FARMS FACE SPARE PARTS PROBLEMS

LD212341 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Mar 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast: video talk by Kazakhstan correspondent Viktor Glukhovtsev]

[Summary] Snow is at last disappearing from the fields and sowing has begun in Chimkent Oblast. The first 30,000 hectares of plowed land have been sown to barley and perennial grasses, and top-dressing of winter crops is underway. But the main work is snow retention, which has been carried out on 30 million hectares. Virtually all oblasts in Kazakhstan have fulfilled the plan for accumulation of winter moisture.

However, fertilizers supplies to the fields are not going well, and because of poor organization on site, farms in the republic have fulfilled the plan by only 60 percent. Tens of thousands of hectares of plowland have not been given the necessary organic top-dressing. There are also errors in preparing machinery for the spring. Of the over 250,000 tractors in Kazakhstan, 30,000 have still not been made ready, including 9,000 K-700 tractors. The main reasons for this is that the USSR Ministry of the Motor-Vehicle Industry and the USSR State Committee for Supply of Equipment to Agriculture are not providing the republic with enough spare parts to repair Korov tractors.

MILITARY NEWSMEN DISCUSS MARCH 1985 PLENUM

PM211614 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

["Our correspondent" report: "Military Journalists' Conference"]

[Text] A conference of the leaders of the central military press organs has been held. A speech on the results of the Extraordinary CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum and the tasks for the military press stemming from its decisions and the speech at it by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was delivered by Lieutenant General D. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. The mass media and propaganda were specificially instructed to further improve the effectiveness and quality of their work.

ADMIRAL GORSHKOV PRESENTS AWARD TO PLANT

PM181105 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Captain-Lieutenant V. Pasyakiv report under the general heading "For Valiant Labor"]

[Text] High production indicators have been achieved by the working people at the ship repair plant headed by Captain 2d Class D. Khasiyev. In the past 2 years labor productivity here has increased 6.1 percent. The pledges to save materials and resources adopted by the collective for the current 5-year plan have been fulfilled in 3 years and 9 months.

The plant was a winner in All-Union Socialist Competition in 1984 and was awarded the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner. The banner was presented by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S. Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister.